

Inspection of Mama Bear's Day Nursery

The Bush, Wells Road, Bristol BS4 2BA

Inspection date: 9 November 2021

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education	Inadequate
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Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
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Personal development	Inadequate
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Leadership and management	Inadequate
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children are not making sufficient progress in their learning. Frequent changes to staff and the key-person system mean that staff do not know the children well enough to support their progress. Children are keen to explore and be involved in activities. However, the management team and staff do not provide a curriculum that takes into consideration what children already know and what they need to learn next. Activities provided do not offer children challenge, and often children wander around with little or no interaction from staff. Staff do not recognise how to identify risks that could cause children harm. Younger children wander around eating their snack and staff do not recognise the choking hazard as children play on rocking toys with large pieces of food in their mouths. The management team do not ensure that all staff, including those who are temporary, are given a full induction of the nursery's procedures, including the procedure in place for safeguarding children. Overall, children behave well. Older children learn to share resources. They wait patiently when they want to play with something that another child is playing with. Parents are not currently able to go into the nursery at drop-off and collection times due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff share some information with parents as they collect their children at the door. However, this information is mainly about children's routines, such as what children have eaten and the times that they have slept. Parents do not receive information about their children's learning.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The curriculum is poorly designed and lacks challenge. Staff do not recognise when children are bored and need support in accessing the activities on offer. Staff sit next to children as they wander around and pull toys on to the floor, but they do not try to engage with them. Children are not engaged in their learning because activities are not targeted to meet their individual learning needs. Staff interactions with children are weak and the management team have failed to identify this. The management team do not provide staff with the support, training and coaching that they need to raise the quality of education that children receive.
- Staff do not identify risks as children play. They watch on as babies put raw pasta pieces into their mouths and try to feed it to their peers. Food is left on the floor after snack time and tables are not cleaned before children eat. Staff do not help older children to learn how to keep themselves safe, as they allow children to run around chasing each other where there is sand spilt on the floor.
- Staff do not monitor children's progress and they do not complete the required two-year progress check for all children. This impacts their ability to plan and deliver an ambitious curriculum which meets children's individual learning needs. Older children do not have opportunities to be creative and express their ideas.

- The key-person system is weak and not effective. Constant changes to staffing and staff deployment means that children are not able to build relationships with their key person. Staff do not know the children well enough to support them and engage them in learning. Children who are less confident do not take part in activities because staff do not recognise when they need more support and encouragement.
- The management team do not follow the procedures in place to ensure that all staff receive a full induction of the policies and procedures of the nursery. Staff are not aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. However, they are able to identify things that may cause them concern.
- Parents say that their children look forward to going to nursery and they are happy with the care that their children receive. However, parents are not informed about changes to staffing and key persons. Parents do not receive information about their children's learning and how they can support this at home.
- Older children enjoy using the equipment in the garden, which supports their physical development. They take on the challenge to climb on the climbing frame and they show pride in their achievement when they reach the top.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff understand the indicators that may suggest that a child is at risk of harm. However, not all staff know who to report concerns about children's welfare to, including how to report concerns outside of the organisation. The management team do not monitor staff's knowledge and understanding of risk assessment. As a result, the risk assessments in place are not effective and staff do not recognise risks that could cause children harm. For instance, they do not take action when children drop toys all over the floors, causing trip hazards.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
improve staff's understanding of how to identify and minimise risks to children	30/11/2021
ensure that all staff have a good understanding of the safeguarding procedures in place, including who to report concerns to, in and outside of the organisation	30/11/2021

provide all staff with training, support and coaching to raise the quality of their interactions with children	30/11/2021
ensure the required progress check for children between the ages of two and three years is completed	30/11/2021
plan and implement a curriculum that offers children challenge and targets their learning effectively	30/11/2021
ensure that parents are well informed about changes to their child's key person and are kept up to date with what their children are learning	30/11/2021
ensure that the key-person system is effective, so that children feel secure and their individual needs are met.	30/11/2021

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY471520
Local authority	Bristol City of
Inspection number	10213111
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	79
Number of children on roll	87
Name of registered person	Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901325
Telephone number	0117 9803596
Date of previous inspection	15 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

Mama Bear's Day Nursery registered in 2013. The nursery is in the Totterdown area of Bristol. The nursery operates weekdays from 7.30am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. The nursery employs 17 members of staff. Of these, one holds a level 6 qualification in early years, five have level 3 qualifications and five are level 2 qualified. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Victoria Nicolson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into consideration.
- A meeting was held with the management team, and the inspector sampled documentation.
- The manager took the inspector on a learning walk and discussed how she delivers the curriculum.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the manager.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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