

Inspection of Little Swanswell Nursery

Cornerstone Family Centre, Howard Street, Coventry CV1 4GE

Inspection date: 19 January 2022

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Inadequate

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's health and safety is compromised due to breaches of requirements in relation to risk assessments. Although managers are able to identify health and safety risks in the environment and share their expectations with staff, they do not monitor the premises effectively enough to ensure swift action is taken to minimise risks. Some children are not supported to manage their own behaviour. Consequently, they are not learning how to keep themselves and others safe.

Some children make some progress in their development through purposeful play and learning experiences that the staff provide. However, there are some adult-led activities that do not engage all children. This has a negative impact on their learning and the progress they make.

Older children frequently converse with staff. They chat to their friends as they create their own games, and they regularly laugh with one another. Children are confident in their surroundings and independently move between the activities on offer. During the morning session, children have access to all of the activities, however, some activities are less available in the afternoon session.

The youngest children show delight in fun experiences, such as popping bubbles in the air. Babies who are less settled are comforted by their key person and gently introduced into play.

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

- Breaches of requirements in relation to risk assessments and a lack of monitoring throughout the provision undermines children's health and safety. Risks to children are not addressed quickly enough to ensure they are kept safe.
- Children are exposed to risks that compromise their health and safety. They are able to access the kitchen where sharp objects are left on a surface by staff. Electrical wires are loose, causing a tripping hazard for children, plastic bags are not made inaccessible to children and items and objects containing chemicals are left in close proximity to children. Some of the bathrooms used by the children are not maintained in a clean condition.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are provided with some one-to-one support. However, the staff deployed to care for these children are not vigilant enough at mealtimes to ensure that the children only eat the food that is specifically provided for them.
- Some staff confidently identify children's individual learning needs. They are aware of children who need more support to begin to engage in their learning and grow in confidence. Staff describe how they can provide this during adult-led activities. However, staff fail to engage with some children and do not

successfully implement their plans in practice. That said, there are times when staff successfully support other children to develop their attention. For example, children are helped to make marks through exploring materials, such as flour.

- Management is aware of the pressures on staff and the impact the recent COVID-19 pandemic has had on their personal lives. Strategies are in place to support staff's general health and well-being.
- Older children's physical development is promoted satisfactorily. During the morning session indoors, they practise handling skills while they use tools, such as small scoops to gather shredded paper. However, this opportunity is not always available to the children who attend in the afternoon, as the staff do not replenish the resources frequently enough.
- Some children learn the difference between right and wrong. However, some staff do not effectively implement the nursery's strategies, that are designed to improve children's behaviour. Consequently, some children are confused about what is expected of them.
- The youngest children share warm relationships with the staff who care for them. Staff are kind, gentle and attentive to the children's needs. Babies are cuddled to settle them to sleep when they are tired. Staff support their physical development by holding their hands to steady them in taking their first steps and becoming mobile.
- Parents and grandparents express they are very happy with the service they receive. They especially appreciate that other professionals involved in their child's life are welcomed into the nursery to participate in the settling-in sessions. Parents facing periods of financial hardship are offered good support from the nursery staff in different ways. Effective strategies are in place to share information with parents in their home languages.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Although managers are aware of some health and safety risks to children, action is not taken swiftly enough to minimise risks in many areas of the nursery. Staff have access to safeguarding training, and they understand their roles and responsibilities in the event of them having a concern about a child in their care. They have suitable understanding of what constitutes abuse and neglect. Procedures for recruitment and selection are secure. Effective arrangements are in place to assess staff's ongoing suitability to work with children. Required staff-to-child ratios are maintained. Staff induction is secure in ensuring all staff are aware of the nursery's policies and procedures.

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
ensure there are effective arrangements in place for the supervision of staff and offer support, guidance and mentoring to raise the quality of their practice	28/01/2022
ensure all staff fully understand their responsibilities in minimising risks to children's health and safety and in taking action without delay	28/01/2022
improve the supervision of children at mealtimes to ensure they only eat the food that is provided for them	28/01/2022
support staff to improve the learning experiences for all children to consistently engage them in their learning and help them to make good progress.	28/01/2022

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- monitor all aspects of the provision more closely to help ensure standards are raised to a higher level
- support all children to understand what is expected of them and learn the difference between right and wrong
- replenish resources in the pre-school room as they are used, to ensure that all children have equal opportunities to access a variety of play throughout the day.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY414744
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	10220202
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	61
Number of children on roll	161
Name of registered person	Paradise Mobile Creche Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP528545
Telephone number	02476 633 899
Date of previous inspection	29 August 2019

Information about this early years setting

Little Swanswell Nursery registered in 2010 and is situated in Coventry. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff, 17 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications, ranging from level 2 to level 5. One of the two managers holds qualified teacher status. The nursery operates all year around. Sessions are available Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Lapworth

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.
- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information received about this provider.
- The inspector conducted a learning walk with the provider and discussed the curriculum with her.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents and grandparents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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