

Inspection of Children 1st @ Clowne

High Street, Clowne, CHESTERFIELD, Derbyshire S43 4JX

Inspection date: 24 February 2022

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children are not safe as they are not appropriately supervised by staff when eating snack. They do not understand what is expected of them at snack time, and get up and down while eating. Staff do not position themselves so they can see children eating snack. They do not check that children remain seated during snack or remind them of the rules to help them learn how to keep safe when eating.

Staff know the children's current levels of knowledge and skill. However, they do not consistently build on what children know and can do. Children, particularly in the older age groups, do not make enough progress due to the weakness in the teaching of the curriculum. In the older age groups, children are often disengaged in their learning due to lack of challenge and expectation. That said, young children enjoy building tall towers and knocking them over, developing their physical skills. They enjoy painting and printing activities, exploring the different textures.

Staff are friendly and welcoming towards children. Children appreciate being with their familiar adult and with each other. They enjoy sharing books with their key person. Children are kind to each other and help the adults to tidy up.

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

- Staff care practices are ineffective. Leaders do not deploy staff appropriately so that children are adequately supervised at all times. They have not considered the room layout so that children are kept safe in their care when eating snack. Children are not kept safe from choking during snack time, as staff leave them to eat out of their sight when they are not clear on the rules.
- Leaders have thought about the curriculum design but this is not consistently implemented across the nursery. Staff are not clear on what they want children to learn. For example, they are not clear on what they want to teach children at the play dough table. Furthermore, staff's interactions with children are limited. As a result of this, children are often bored and leave activities. Children do not make good progress as they do not spend enough time engaged in learning that helps develop their knowledge and skills.
- Children are beginning to develop some independence skills. For example, they help their friends to serve their dinner at lunchtime. Staff generally provide children with appropriate praise and encouragement. However, they do not always support children to be more independent and to make choices. For example, some children in the pre-school room wait for staff to put on their coat. As a result, some children do not develop the independence needed to support them in their future learning.
- Children are keen to learn and get involved in their own self-chosen play activities. For example, older children knew that they could squish the wet peas

with their fingers and feet, once the ice had melted. However, staff do not allow children the time and resources to explore and find things out for themselves.

- Parents are happy with the nursery. They comment positively on the way that their children have settled in and how children enjoy going to the nursery. Parents appreciate the communication from staff about their child's day. They explain how the setting supported them and the community during the pandemic.
- Children have a good understanding of how they can keep themselves healthy. They enjoy being outdoors and are keen to learn outside. Babies are eager to get outside in their own area and play happily with toys in the garden. Leaders have listened to children from the 'setting council' and have adapted the menu to consider children's views and choices.
- Leaders have considered staff's well-being and have put in provisions to ensure that staff feel supported. Leaders encourage staff to take an active part in the setting's own planning and evaluation tool.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Leaders have not ensured that children are kept safe as staff do not adequately supervise children. Staff are not deployed well. At times, the less-qualified staff supervise the most children. Children are not always suitably supervised by adults and their safety is not assured. Staff working with children know the signs and symptoms of abuse. They know the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child in their care or about a staff member's conduct. Leaders have appropriate recruitment procedures in place to ensure all staff working with children are suitable.

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 children are appropriately supervised and leaders deploy staff appropriately to ensure children are kept safe	04/03/2022
ensure staff are clear on what they want children to learn and provide learning experiences that develop children's knowledge and skills.	07/04/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY314038
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10131225
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 9
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	166
Name of registered person	Breedon House Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900832
Telephone number	01246813805
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2015

Information about this early years setting

Children 1st @ Clowne registered in 2006 and is based in Clowne, Derbyshire. The setting is part of the Children 1st @ Breedon House nursery chain. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6, two hold level 4, eight hold level 3 and two hold level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Helen Lakey (Nee Fulcher)

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 sampled documentation such as staff files, first-aid certificates and staff qualifications.
- The area manager and the inspector took part in a learning walk at the start of the inspection, to find out what staff intend children to learn and how they implement the curriculum.
- The inspector and the area manager carried out a joint observation to find out how they evaluate teaching.
- The inspector spent time observing the children, both indoors and outdoors, in all of the rooms in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection and gained the views of parents.

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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