

Inspection of Kinderversity

The Lady Hall, Brenchley Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 7NX

Inspection date: 26 April 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

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Despite improvement since the last inspection, some weaknesses remain in the safeguarding arrangements. Staff do not have a sufficiently strong knowledge of the events that could indicate that a child is at risk. As a result, they do not always recognise when to take action to ensure children's safety.

The newly appointed manager has implemented a range of changes that are beginning to have a positive impact on children's learning. Children behave well as a result of a staff focus on sharing and turn taking. Although some activities lack challenge, children join in enthusiastically and have fun.

Children use their developing language well to talk with their friends and share interesting stories about their experiences outside of the nursery. For example, older children talk confidently about the meals they enjoy at home.

Babies and toddlers enjoy exploring the resources set out and form strong bonds with their key person. However, at times, children become unnecessarily distressed when left in the care of an unfamiliar adult.

All children enjoy spending time outside each day. Older children develop an interest in the natural world as they visit a local playing field. Younger children confidently use equipment, such as ride-on toys and slides, to develop their physical coordination.

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

- The leadership of the nursery is not effective. The provider does not have a good enough oversight to ensure that all requirements are met. The new manager has clear plans for improvement and has successfully begun to implement these. However, the manager was not present during the inspection and this role was assumed by the provider. In the manager's absence, there was nobody present with full knowledge of the arrangements and procedures in place. This resulted in required information not being readily available.
- Although there are enough staff to meet the minimum ratio requirements, staff deployment is not effective. The nursery comprises two group rooms which are located at different ends of a community building. This presents difficulties for the staff working with the babies and toddlers. They frequently have to leave their room as the kitchen is at the other end of the building. During the inspection, the provider sent the key person of a distressed child to run these errands. This left unfamiliar staff trying to comfort the child.
- Arrangements to ensure that children's care needs are met are not sufficiently robust. Information provided by parents about children's dietary requirements is

not known by all staff. In addition, communication between staff is not effective. During the inspection, this resulted in a child not receiving a bottle of formula as it was mixed incorrectly. On this occasion, although the child was distressed, there was no physical harm. However, the lack of attention to children's individual care needs presents an ongoing risk. The lack of focus on information provided by parents also impacts on children's ability to develop their self-identity. Staff do not know the ethnicity identified for each child or the languages spoken in their home and therefore do not reflect these in the nursery.

- Staff morale has significantly improved. This helps to create an atmosphere that is largely friendly and positive. The new manager has worked effectively with staff to begin to raise the quality of teaching. Staff are confident in providing enjoyable activities based around children's interests. However, these are not consistently planned to offer the challenge that children need to progress well in their learning.
- Support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) has improved. The SEND coordinator has attended relevant training and has a more confident knowledge of her role. She has taken action to seek support for individual children where necessary.
- Parents receive a friendly greeting when they drop off and collect their children. Staff use these opportunities to share general information about each child's day and the activities that have taken place. The manager is working to provide parents with more specific information about the progress their children are making.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The manager, who is the designated safeguarding lead, and key staff have not taken action to check on the welfare of children whose absence is unexplained. Failure to identify this as a safeguarding concern places children at risk. Staff are alert to physical signs or changes in behaviour that may raise concern about a child. Since the last inspection, staff have developed a secure knowledge of the process to report such concerns.

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
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ensure that all staff are alert to any issues of concern in a child's life at home or elsewhere, including unexplained absences	27/04/2022
improve staffing arrangements and deployment to ensure that the needs of all children are consistently met	30/05/2022
ensure that staff act on information from parents about children's dietary requirements	27/04/2022
support staff to plan and deliver challenging educational programmes to help children to reach their full potential.	30/05/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY501096
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10217466
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 4
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Kinderversity Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910114
Telephone number	01892 458231
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2021

Information about this early years setting

Kinderversity registered in 2016 and is located in Brenchley, near Tonbridge, Kent. The nursery is open from 7am to 7pm, each weekday, for 51 weeks of the year. There are nine members of staff. Of these, five hold qualifications at level 2 or above, including the manager who holds a qualification at level 5. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The provider lead the inspector on a tour of the premises and discussed the changes that had been made since the last inspection.
- The inspector observed the interaction of staff and children during a range of activities.
- Discussions took place with the provider, staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A range of relevant documentation was scrutinised.

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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