

Inspection of Harwood Childrens Day Nursery Limited

Harwood Childrens Day Nursery, 266-268 Hough Fold Way, BOLTON BL2 3LB

Inspection date: 10 March 2022

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

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 exposed to potential hazards because the manager fails to ensure the premises are safe. For example, rusty shelves in the baby's outdoor area and bowing shelves with heavy books in pre-school are a safety hazard. In addition, long wires hang slack and chemicals are stored within easy reach of children. Additionally, the premises are not clean. These issues pose a potential risk to children and are not supportive of their good health and personal development. The manager also does not appropriately ascertain the suitability of all staff. This means some adults who work directly with children have not had the necessary checks to ensure they are safe to do so. This is not supportive of children's welfare.

Despite this, children are happy. They are curious and confident. Older children eagerly approach the inspector and tell her about their friends, families and experiences. They are excited to greet a new visitor because they feel secure and safe with their key persons nearby. Babies experience wonder and awe. They excitedly exclaim 'wow' as they explore different sensory lights and shapes. Babies look to their peers and giggle with delight as they examine the different textures together. Children enjoy strong, warm bonds with staff and their friends. They especially relish the outdoor environment. Children use their imaginative skills, count out loud and show high levels of engagement as they explore water, nature and the array of resources on offer.

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

- The manager does not fulfil her roles and responsibilities to help keep children safe. New staff are allowed to work with children before their identity has been ascertained. Additionally, the manager does not obtain up-to-date Disclosure and Barring Service checks for all staff as required. Furthermore, she does not ensure the premises are maintained to an acceptable standard. The communal areas, staff bathroom and older children's room are particularly unclean. Risk assessments are completed, but they are not effective. Hazards within the environment go unnoticed and are not rectified. As a result of these failings, children are not adequately protected from potential harm or injury.
- Parents have positive comments about the setting. They report that staff 'genuinely enjoy caring for your child' and feel that they receive 'very personal' approaches. However, some parents would like more detailed updates from the staff and manager about their children's learning and experiences. Additionally, the manager does not record parental complaints, as is required. Some parents express that although they bring issues to the attention of the manager, they do not receive an adequate response or resolution. This is not supportive of strong parental partnerships.
- Staff are passionate within their roles. They know their key children very well.

Staff are determined that no child 'is put into a box'. They recognise that all children need different approaches to accommodate their individual needs and stages of development. Staff deliver a well-thought-out, challenging and interesting curriculum. Children embrace this whole-heartedly. This is particularly evident when children play outside, and they are immersed in the environment. They eagerly invite staff to join their games and the air is filled with happy sounds, like laughter. All children make good progress. Staff are especially proud when children reach new milestones and overcome personal obstacles.

- Children's communication and language skills are particularly well supported. Staff skilfully encourage children to expand their vocabulary and engage in meaningful conversations. Children express themselves very well. They are articulate and clearly benefit from the communication and language activities delivered by staff.
- The manager places importance on staff well-being. Staff report that they feel well supported in their roles. They are happy and this reflects in their dedication to their roles. This helps to ensure that children receive a good quality of curriculum and interactions at the setting.
- The manager and staff are keen to expose children to different cultures and traditions outside of their own. They use stories, songs and shared experiences to help children learn about the diversity of the world. Children enjoy this and begin to gain a wider understanding of different communities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The manager, who is also the designated safeguarding lead, does not have the knowledge to fulfil her roles and responsibilities. She fails to maintain an appropriate understanding of safeguarding. She does not know the correct procedures to follow should she be concerned about the welfare of a child. Most staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. However, not all staff know the agencies they must inform should the manager fail to safeguard children. The manager fails to ensure that all adults working with children are suitable and safe to do so. Therefore, children are not adequately protected from potential harm. The premises are not risk assessed effectively. This means children are exposed to potential hazards.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
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ensure all designated safeguarding leads and staff have a thorough understanding of their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe from harm	01/04/2022
ensure the premises are risk assessed effectively to swiftly identify hazards to children in the environment, particularly in the pre-school room and outdoors	01/04/2022
ensure the premises are clean and hygienic in order to help support children's good health and personal development	01/04/2022
ensure a record of complaints is maintained along with evidence of any resolution	01/04/2022
ensure the suitability of all staff is ascertained to establish whether they are safe to work with and care for children.	01/04/2022

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

- consider ways to strengthen relationships with parents so they feel involved, informed and equipped to further support their children's ongoing development at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY419554
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	10129201
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	36
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Harwood Children's Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP530263
Telephone number	01204 481 370
Date of previous inspection	15 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

Harwood Childrens Day Nursery Limited registered in 2010 and is situated in Bolton. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 3 or above, and one holds qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Shauneen Wainwright

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 nursery.
- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information received about the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Staff joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children and parents communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with the manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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