

Inspection of Sheffield Woodland Kindergarten Ltd

Behind Frances Newton Lynwood Gardens, 7 Clarkehouse Road, Sheffield, South
Yorkshire S10 2LA

Inspection date: 19 May 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	Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Despite weaknesses in the provider's leadership, resulting in several breaches of the early years foundation stage, older children are relaxed and happy attending. However, weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's safety is not assured.

Children are greeted at the gate by staff with a smile and a hug. They settle quickly within the environment. Children, generally, behave well. They develop a sense of right and wrong. More resources have been added to the outdoor area. Older children confidently talk about how they are making chocolate and vanilla cupcakes, and turning them into soup. Older children are creative. They make pirate maps and hats, and sing pirate songs. Children interact nicely with each other during animated role play. For example, they construct a pirate ship from tree branches and sheeting. Children take turns to lay the pieces of branch and use flower stems as monsters.

Staff do not plan challenging activities and experiences to build upon children's learning. As a result, children's learning and development are poor. Many young children spend long periods of time without being spoken to. They often stand or sit quietly, and make no attempt to play. When younger children show an interest in a glitter activity, they are told the activity is not for them and they wander away. Children do not make good progress in their learning and development.

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

- The provider has an unrealistic view of the provision and continues to demonstrate a poor capacity to meet all of the legal requirements of the early years foundation stage. There is no regular manager at the setting, and in the event of the deputy manager not being available, there is no appropriate plan in place for the role to be covered. The management consultant and deputy manager are working with the local authority and have an action plan in place. However, significant weaknesses highlighted at the previous inspection have not been addressed.
- The provider has put activities in place to promote staff's well-being. A 'staff member of the month' can choose an outing for all staff to take part in. Some staff have had supervision meetings and attended training. However, staff do not receive focused support and supervision to help them to raise their practice to a higher level. New staff have not received induction training. Therefore, the arrangements for supporting staff do not help them to be fully aware of their roles and responsibilities. The provider has been set actions at the previous inspection to address this weakness.
- The provider has implemented a key-person system for all children. However,

due to poor staff deployment, the system in place is not effective. Staff do not work with their key children, as they are working in different areas of the setting. In addition, children are not always supervised appropriately. This means that accidents happen. For example, during the inspection, more than one child fell from a sling, causing them to hurt themselves. This action has not been addressed from the last inspection.

- Inclusion plans aimed at offering children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) individualised support are in place. However, key persons do not offer children with SEND continual high-quality interactions or appropriate targeted intervention during their attendance. For example, during a reading activity, children with SEND are ignored as they run aimlessly round the area and jump on a table top. This does not help to fully meet their needs. This was an action at the last inspection that has not been addressed.
- Staff have not received training that specifically addresses the care of children under the age of two years. Therefore, they have a poor understanding of how to support their learning. Staff fail to interact and rarely speak to these children to stimulate their learning, or effectively build on what they already know and can do. When staff do read to these children, the books are not age-appropriate for children's stage of development. This does not aid young children's communication and language development.
- The provider does not fulfil her responsibility to complete the required progress check for children aged between two and three years. Staff do not observe and monitor children's learning effectively. This means that they do not know children's stage of development and what children need to learn next. Staff do not implement an effective curriculum. As a result, children do not experience meaningful teaching across the areas of learning. Therefore, children are not prepared for the next stage in their learning, or for school when the time comes. The provider was set actions at the previous inspection to address this weakness.
- Children are provided with healthy snacks, and enjoy the fruit and oat cakes they are offered. Staff help children to learn about why the food they eat is healthy, and good for their bodies. They learn independence skills.
- Staff regularly talk to parents to exchange information about children's achievements. Parents report that they are happy with the care their children receive. They comment that they are supported personally by the provider.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider does not have a clear insight into the safeguarding and welfare requirements. The provider and staff attend training to update their knowledge and understanding of safeguarding. However, some staff are unsure of current child protection legislation. In addition, they are not aware of the possible signs of abuse and neglect, or how to report a concern about a child. The provider was set actions at the last inspection to address these weaknesses.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
take quick and effective action to improve the staff's understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, and the procedures to be followed should a concern arise about a child	23/06/2022
ensure that all staff understand the procedure to follow if allegations are made against any staff member and understand child protection legislation to keep children safe from harm	23/06/2022
ensure that a level 3 qualified manager or deputy is in place at all times	23/06/2022
develop processes for staff's induction and supervision, so that all staff gain secure knowledge of their role and responsibilities, including the actions to take to safeguard children	23/06/2022
ensure that staff are deployed effectively at all times to keep children safe and ensure their needs are met	23/06/2022
ensure that at least half of the staff working with children aged under two years have received training to work with babies	23/06/2022
ensure that the plans in place for children with SEND are implemented effectively, so that they benefit from targeted intervention to help meet their needs and progress.	23/06/2022

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

	Due date
complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years, to identify and address any emerging gaps in their development, and provide parents with a summary, so that they are well informed	19/10/2022
ensure that all staff consistently observe and assess children's learning and development, to help them plan suitably challenging activities that link to children's learning and next steps, so that all children make good progress	19/10/2022
monitor the educational programmes and planning systems robustly to ensure that the intent of the curriculum is implemented successfully by all staff across the seven areas of learning	19/10/2022
make sure that staff working with the younger children develop their teaching and interactions to ensure that the curriculum is implemented effectively and builds on what children already know.	19/10/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486454
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	10238281
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	1 to 5
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Sheffield Woodland Kindergarten Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP534372
Telephone number	07515021243
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2022

Information about this early years setting

Sheffield Woodland Kindergarten Ltd registered in 2015. The kindergarten employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The kindergarten opens all year round, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays, two weeks at Christmas, two weeks in the summer and one week at Easter. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm. The kindergarten provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Ruth Moore

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 inspector and management consultant completed a learning walk across all areas of the setting to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery deputy manager and provider, and looked at a sample of the setting's documents. This included evidence of staff's suitability and training.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the management consultant.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents 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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