

Inspection of Cooper Trees Nursery Ltd

Saltash Parkway Industrial Estate, SALTASH, Cornwall PL12 6LF

Inspection date: 13 May 2022

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

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 safety is compromised. The manager, who jointly shares the designated safeguarding lead role (DSL), does not fully understand her responsibilities and the setting's safeguarding policy. The weaknesses in her knowledge and understanding of child protection and all safeguarding issues place children's safety at risk.

Children are happy and settle quickly on arrival. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, children leave their parents at the gate and enter the premises independently. They go on to greet their friends enthusiastically and confidently select activities they wish to participate in. Children form close bonds with the friendly staff team. For example, staff provide warm and comforting cuddles when children are upset and they sing songs to help settle them.

Children enjoy having the freedom to choose what they want to play with and if they want to be inside or outside. Children are polite and use courteous language. For example, older children consistently say 'please' and 'thank you' when passing resources to each other. Older children gain good levels of independence. They put on their coats to play outside and attend to their personal hygiene needs. However, there are inadequate arrangements in place for changing younger children's nappies.

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

- Children's safety is at risk because safeguarding practice is not good enough. The manager does not know the correct procedure to follow should an allegation be made against a member of staff. In addition, the manager and staff do not know all indicators that suggest children may be at risk of harm from safeguarding concerns. This means they are not able to report any relevant concerns to the appropriate authorities.
- Staff are aware of what children know and can do. They know their key children well and plan activities that capture their interests and support their ongoing development. Children often become immersed in their play and older children are highly motivated learners. They concentrate well and busy themselves in a variety of activities. For instance, they look at books together and enjoy acting out characters in their favourite stories.
- Staff provide good support for children who require additional help and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff plan realistic targets that promote the children's learning and development and meet their individual needs. For example, staff use visual aids to communicate with some children about the activities that are happening across the day.
- Older children demonstrate the ability to attend to their personal needs

successfully. However, younger children have their nappies changed on a mat in full view of other children and adults on site. This does not promote their privacy.

- Staff build on children's ideas well. For example, staff encourage children to write a shopping list of ingredients for a pizza they are making out of play dough. Staff help children to hear the initial sounds of words and children have a go at writing 'cheese' and 'tomato'.
- Parents speak highly of the staff and feel that their children are looked after well. Parents particularly value the regular updates and information they receive on an online platform. Staff work closely with parents to promote home learning and share activities. For example, they provide a lending library so children can enjoy sharing books with their families and extend their learning at home.
- Staff deployment is not always effective at ensuring that children are kept safe. For example, despite being told not to put a knife in their mouth to lick the butter, some children do this anyway and staff do not notice this.
- Children benefit from regular outdoor play in the garden. They confidently use equipment, such as a rope swing, a large climbing frame and balancing planks. They learn to climb ladders and race down a large slide. Children join in with music and movement sessions. They move their bodies in time with the music. This helps to develop children's physical skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The DSL, who is also manager, does not have a secure enough knowledge and understanding of the local safeguarding partnership's procedures to protect children's welfare. She does not know the correct procedures to follow should an allegation be made against an adult working on the premises. The DSL does not have a secure, up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding and is not able to identify the signs that a child may be at risk of harm from all safeguarding matters, including female genital mutilation. This means that she is unable to recognise when information should be shared and reported so that children can be protected. Leaders follow safer recruitment guidance and implement effective procedures to assess the initial and ongoing suitability of staff. Staff maintain accurate records for children's attendance and personal care.

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 the designed safeguarding lead (DSL) and the manager know the correct procedures to follow should an allegation be made against a member of staff	01/06/2022
provide effective training and support for staff to ensure they have a secure knowledge and understanding of safeguarding matters, including how to identify if a child is at risk of female genital mutilation	01/06/2022
ensure there are suitable arrangements are in place for nappy changing	01/06/2022
review and manage staff deployment effectively to ensure that all children are supervised, particularly during mealtimes.	01/06/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY454806
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	10230980
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	32
Name of registered person	Cooper Trees Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP532068
Telephone number	01752 846380
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

Cooper Trees Nursery registered in 2012. It is a privately owned provision situated at Saltash Industrial Estate. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am until 5.30pm for 49 weeks of the year. The setting is closed for one week at the end of August, and for two weeks over the Christmas and New Year period in line with the school holidays. The nursery receives funding for nursery education for children aged two, three and four years. There are five members of staff employed to work with the children. All staff have early years qualifications in childcare and education, including one with qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Stephanie Ayres

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 her evaluation of the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk to discuss the curriculum intent.
- Two joint observations were carried out by the manager and the inspector and they discussed the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector spoke with children and their parents to take account of their views.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and the managers to discuss the leadership of the setting.
- The inspector reviewed some documentation, including evidence of staff suitability and qualifications, paediatric first aid and the safeguarding policy.

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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