

Inspection of The Lodge At Coley

Coley Park Childrens Centre, St. Marys All Saints C Of E Primary School, Wensley Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 6DU

Inspection date: 30 June 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Weaknesses in safeguarding practice mean that children's safety is put at risk. Furthermore, children's health and well-being is compromised, due to poor daily practices and staff's failure to maintain the nursery's policies and procedures. For example, during the inspection, staff failed to count the children inside from the garden. This resulted in them leaving a child outside unsupervised. This has a detrimental impact on children's safety. Children's health and well-being are compromised as staff fail to ensure healthy practices are maintained, especially at lunchtimes. Despite this, children show they are happy with the staff, as they approach them for cuddles if they need comfort or reassurance throughout the day.

Mostly, children and resources available support children's learning and enjoyment. For example, children play with the cars using ramps and the garages. Children show curiosity as they explore with sensory activities, like exploring with foam and water. Although some children play alongside each other well, this is not consistent. Too often children demonstrate poor behaviour. They wander away from activities and some appear unengaged, which is overlooked by staff. This does not help children learn right from wrong, and staff do not teach them how their actions have an effect on others. Leaders know what they want children to learn, and staff know how the activities support the curriculum. However, children do not receive consistently high-quality interactions. For example, during a water activity, staff did not focus on the learning intention and did not recognise opportunities to further support children's mathematical understanding.

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

- Staff have a poor regard to their safeguarding responsibilities, which jeopardises children's safety. Furthermore, staff fail to maintain all children's well-being as they are not vigilant in their supervision.
- Staff fail to ensure the children's health is maintained during mealtimes. Although children wash their hands before eating, lunchtime is lengthy and does not run smoothly. This results in children wandering off and playing before returning to the table for pudding with unclean hands. Children with known allergies are provided with appropriate foods suited to their needs. However, some children's health is put at significant risk as they pick up and eat foods that have been dropped on the floor. This does not support their health or help them to gain an awareness of good hygiene practices to be followed.
- Staff do not supervise children adequately at mealtimes. During the inspection, children put too much food into their mouths, which was far too big for them to chew. This put children at risk of choking.
- At times, children receive praise and encouragement from the staff. However,

there are many occasions that children do not behave well, and staff are seen to ignore many incidents of poor behaviour. For example, at the inspection children are seen snatching, hitting and pulling toys from others, despite staff sitting with them. This does not fully support children to begin to learn about how to manage their feelings.

- Although staff feel well supported, supervision is not effective in identifying and addressing weaknesses in the quality of teaching. Staff know how their key children are progressing. They are able to talk about the achievements they have made in their development since starting. However, staff do not share or follow the manager's vision, for example the manager's vision is for all children to be independent in their self-care. Staff frequently do not encourage the children to complete routine tasks which are within their capabilities.
- Children participate in some activities which provides them with interest and supports some aspects of their learning. For example, they enjoy singing, take part in 'What is in the Box?' sessions and story times. These activities help children to hear vocabulary and supports their emerging communication and language skills.
- Parents talk fondly of the staff and comment that their children are happy and that their children enjoy the sessions. Parents state that they get a good amount of feedback from the staff about how their child has been during the session.
- Partnerships with other providers are strong. Leaders and staff work well with other professionals involved in children's care, to support collaborative relationships.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Ineffective staff deployment and supervision of children places children at risk of harm. Leaders provide staff with regular safeguarding training. However, not all staff understand their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. For example, some staff do not understand the signs and indicators of abuse. Additionally, some staff are not aware of the referral procedures to follow externally in the event of a concern. This means that children's safety cannot be assured. Leaders have appropriate recruitment processes in place and all staff working with the children have a suitable Disclosure and Barring Service check.

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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take action to ensure staff have an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of their roles to safeguard children, are confident in all signs and indicators of abuse, and are aware of the external reporting procedures	28/07/2022
ensure that children are supervised effectively at all times to meet their individual needs and to keep them safe	28/07/2022
take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection to ensure children's health is not compromised	28/07/2022
ensure children's behaviour is managed appropriately, and help children understand the consequences of their actions on others	28/07/2022
ensure all staff receive effective supervision and coaching to help them fulfil their roles and responsibilities and provide a good quality curriculum.	28/07/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY563488
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	10194450
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 2
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	Brighter Futures For Children Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP563486
Telephone number	01189373092
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Lodge At Coley re-registered in 2018 and is situated in Coley Park Childrens Centre, St. Marys All Saints C Of E Primary School. The nursery operates from 9.30am to 2.30pm, Wednesday to Friday, term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early years education to children aged two years. There are three members of staff, of these two staff hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

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 provider.
- The manager explained the nursery curriculum during a learning walk with the inspector.
- The manager and the inspector completed a joint observation of an activity together and discussed the quality of teaching and learning afterwards.
- Children spoke to the inspector about the activities they took part in.
- A number of parents provided feedback about the nursery through discussions with the inspector.

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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