

Inspection of Busy Buddies

Poppy Field Primary Academy, Bishop Street, Hednesford WS12 4RY

Inspection date: 19 July 2022

The quality and standards of early years provision	This inspection	Not met (with actions)
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Previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

There are breaches to the requirements that have an impact on children's welfare. For example, the manager has not put in place effective systems to ensure that staff are and remain suitable to work with children. In addition, there are weaknesses in the arrangements to ensure children are appropriately safeguarded.

Although not all staff who prepare food are appropriately trained in food hygiene, staff demonstrate secure knowledge of how to prepare food well for the children. For example, they recognise the different foods that pose a choking risk and take steps to minimise this well. This reduces the impact on children's safety. There are positive relationships between the children and the staff. Children follow the directions of the staff well. Staff plan a range of activities for children to engage with. Children enjoy watching the changes taking place as they add water to sand. For example, they laugh with excitement as they see holes forming in the sand. Staff work well in partnership with school to support the continuity of care for the children who attend.

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

- Managers and staff rely heavily on school leaders to act as their designated safeguarding lead. They have not appointed an effective safeguarding lead within their own setting. The manager does not ensure that recruitment procedures are robust enough to identify where staff may pose a risk of harm to children. She does not thoroughly check staff's suitability before they start to work with children. This compromises children's safety and has an impact on their well-being.
- Not all staff who handle food are appropriately trained in food hygiene. That said, staff's knowledge of children's dietary requirements is secure, they wash their hands before preparing and serving food for children to eat. Mealtimes are relaxing social occasions and children enjoy a range of food and snacks which are balanced.
- Parents generally comment positively about the setting and explain that their children enjoy their time at the setting. However, parents are unaware of who their children's key person is. There is not enough information shared with them about the activities provided for children or to fully promote continuity of care. That being said, staff build relationships with children. They know the children well and staff ensure children's care needs are catered for within the setting. Staff liaise well with school to ensure that they find out about children's individual needs.
- Children show high levels of perseverance during activities. For example, they remain focused and determined as they attempt to pick up objects using

tweezers. Children show confidence as visitors come into the setting. They eagerly seek them out to share their opinions and thoughts. Children communicate extremely well.

- Staff provide lots of opportunities for children to learn about others. This includes celebrating different festivals and having open discussions with children about different family structures. This supports children to learn about their similarities and differences. Children show high levels of respect and care towards each other.
- Staff conduct effective risk assessments to ensure that the premises are safe and suitable for children. This includes checking equipment and resources before children enter. Staff are vigilant towards children as they play and deploy themselves well. In addition, staff support children to keep themselves safe in the sun.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The manager's and staff's knowledge of safeguarding is weak. They do not fully understand some different types of abuse, such as those in the 'Prevent' duty, female genital mutilation and county lines. They demonstrate little understanding of the steps they should take if concerns are raised about a child's welfare. In addition, they are unaware of the responsibilities when it comes to managing allegations against staff. For example, although leaders dismiss staff immediately where they show signs of being unsuitable and are a potential risk to children, they are unaware of further duties. They fail to seek advice from external agencies and do not report this significant incident to Ofsted.

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
implement effective recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are and remain suitable to work with children	02/09/2022
improve knowledge of what is reportable to Ofsted	02/09/2022
ensure relevant information is shared with parents to build on partnerships and support consistency of care	02/09/2022

ensure all staff who handle food are appropriately trained in food hygiene	02/09/2022
ensure there is a designated safeguarding lead who takes responsibility for safeguarding the children in the setting	02/09/2022
ensure the designated safeguarding lead attends training that enables them to identify, understand and respond appropriately to possible signs of abuse	02/09/2022
ensure that the designated safeguarding lead understands the action they should take if an allegation is made against a staff member, this includes seeking advice and making referrals where necessary	02/09/2022
train all staff to understand the setting's safeguarding policies and procedures, including the steps they should take if a concern is raised about a child's welfare.	02/09/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	2558536
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10215824
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	3 to 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Krucien, Beverley Jane
Registered person unique reference number	RP909754
Telephone number	07540149908
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Busy Buddies registered in 2019. The out-of-school club employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. They open from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7am to 9am and 3pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Chinyuku

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.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the setting.
- The inspector spoke to several 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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