

# Inspection of Kids Planet Church Walk

6-8 Church Walk, Leeds LS2 7EG

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Inspection date: 16 August 2022

## **Overall effectiveness**

## **Requires improvement**

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The quality of education

**Requires improvement**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Good**

Personal development

**Requires improvement**

Leadership and management

**Requires improvement**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **The provision requires improvement**

There are areas of this newly acquired nursery that require some improvement. For instance, leaders' monitoring of risk assessments is not fully effective and weaknesses in the key-person procedures undermine the overall service the nursery provides.

That said, most children eagerly arrive at the nursery. They move around the play areas with confidence, making their own decisions about what to play with from high-quality resources. The interactions between staff and children are warm and positive. Children's behaviour and attitudes are good. Staff give clear explanations and deal with any minimal disruptions sensitively. For example, they encourage toddlers to share and take turns. Older children quickly resolve their differences and take turns well. For example, they wait patiently for their turn to ride on a popular bike.

Overall, children are keen to learn. They keep on trying with activities and receive plenty of praise from the staff. Children work hard chopping fruit as they make healthy 'smoothies' and feel proud of what they have done. They count, name and compare the fruit they choose, as staff introduce new words, such as 'sour' and 'juicy'. Younger children express their ideas to staff as they explore a sensory activity with dried orange segments, cinnamon sticks and water. Staff support children's confidence effectively, helping them to believe they can succeed in their achievements.

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

- Leaders have made positive improvements to many areas since the takeover, including the risk assessment arrangements. However, during the inspection, the inspector found possible choking hazards to children in the baby room, and a split changing mat harbouring germs. This impacts on the children's safety and health. Additionally, a metal saucepan lid fell from a first-floor open window. This landed a few feet away from the inspector, who was talking to a parent outside. This compromises the safety of adults and children. Nevertheless, leaders took immediate action when these were identified, to minimise the hazards and to improve the ongoing procedures.
- Leaders and the new manager have designed a curriculum with a clear intent for what they want children to learn. However, changes to key persons who care for children are not consistent. Some children and parents are unsure who to go to when their special person is not available. This has had an impact on the continuity of children's care and learning, particularly for some new children and those children requiring additional care. Children do not know cover staff well enough to form secure attachments. Although cover staff are kind and caring to

children, they do not know the information required, to help build on the child's previous learning. This means staff do not consistently engage with children adequately as they play and are not given sufficient challenge to extend their learning. This impacts on the progress children can make. Plans to incorporate a secondary buddy system for each key person have not yet been introduced.

- The enthusiastic and experienced manager has a realistic awareness of the areas that need improvement and has taken effective actions to begin to address these. For example, the use of peer observations and professional discussions has already improved staff interactions with children in the pre-school room. Staff plan relevant activities and resources to support any gaps in children's learning. They challenge and extend children's learning with good questions, helping children to explore their own ideas and develop their imagination. However, this is not yet the case with staff working with babies and toddlers. Staff do not consistently extend children's learning as they play through their interactions with them. This impacts the progress children make.
- Staff provide healthy, nutritious meals where children are encouraged to be as independent as possible. They feed themselves and pour their own water. Children enjoy being physically active in the nursery garden.
- The manager and staff ensure that children's additional needs are supported effectively. Leaders plan to use early years pupil premium and inclusion funding to support children's learning and development. For example, additional staff are to be employed to offer children individual care. Staff ensure all children have equal access to all resources and activities.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents' feedback about the nursery is very positive. They praise the welcoming staff, saying 'all staff genuinely care for the children.'

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Although the new management team has plans to strengthen welfare and safeguarding procedures still further, they do not make all areas of the nursery that children access safe for them to use. Staff working in the under-twos' room do not recognise potential hazards to children until they are shown to them. However, the manager and staff have a good knowledge of the signs and indicators of abuse and neglect. They understand that they must always be vigilant and that they have a duty to prevent children being drawn into situations that put them at risk. Staff confidently describe the procedure they would follow should they have concerns about a colleague's practice. Leaders follow very good procedures for the recruitment and selection of staff, helping to ensure the suitability of staff working with children.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

	<b>Due date</b>
improve risk assessment procedures to help ensure all areas of the nursery are regularly checked and safe	23/08/2022
strengthen the key-person policy by ensuring that they and any cover staff working with children understand and meet the needs of every child in their care.	23/08/2022

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

- continue to support those staff working with babies and toddlers to fully understand what they want these children to learn, so that they can improve their interactions to consistently build on children's learning to help them make the best progress possible.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2683684
<b>Local authority</b>	Leeds
<b>Inspection number</b>	10248184
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	108
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	64
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Kids Planet Day Nurseries Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP900964
<b>Telephone number</b>	01132471731
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Kids Planet Church Walk registered in 2022. It is situated in Leeds and operates from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery employs 20 staff working with the children. Of these, one holds early years teacher status, two hold relevant qualifications at level 6, one at level 4 and 13 hold qualifications at level 3. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Jan Harvey

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 setting.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The manager and inspector carried out two joint observations together to evaluate staff practice and children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held discussions with three members of the senior management team and discussed the leadership and management of the setting.

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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