

Inspection of Humpty Dumpty's

24 Firthland Road, Pickering, North Yorkshire YO18 8BZ

Inspection date:

15 September 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

Children's safety is compromised at this nursery. This is because of breaches to the safeguarding and welfare requirements. Staff knowledge of the nursery's safeguarding policies and procedures is weak. Parts of the outdoor play area are not adequately risk assessed. Poor hygiene standards also mean that children's health and well-being are compromised.

Children do not consistently benefit from interesting and meaningful learning experiences. Although staff know the children in their care very well, they do not regularly plan activities to support children to make progress. Children thoroughly enjoy it when adults join them in their play. For example, they gather round and eagerly use chalk to create a road for vehicles outside. They are encouraged to think about what else they can add to the road. However, there are too many occasions when children's play is lacking in purpose and challenge.

Despite these concerns, children are cared for by kind and nurturing staff. Children receive lots of cuddles and reassurance when they are tired or upset. Children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, display strong attachments to their key person. Children behave well. They are encouraged to use good manners, and they are praised when they share and take turns.

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

- The curriculum in the nursery follows children's interests. Different aspects of learning are incorporated into children's play. However, not enough thought has been put into developing a clearly sequenced curriculum that builds on children's existing knowledge and skills. Too much learning happens by chance, meaning that some children miss out on opportunities to make progress.
- Where teaching is effective, children become fully engaged. For example, staff skilfully encourage children to observe a worm they find. Children work together to create a safe 'home' for the worm. In contrast, children spend too much time with little purpose. They wander around, unsure what to do. Staff do not always pick up on this and guide children towards activities to support their learning. Similarly, at mealtimes children have to wait too long for their food. Opportunities for children to engage in purposeful learning while they wait are not consistently used by staff.
- Staff provide effective support for developing children's speech and communication. They encourage young children to vocalise. New vocabulary is introduced clearly. Older children are given time to formulate their responses to questions. Staff show a real interest in what children have to say. Conversations with staff help children to become confident communicators. Children who speak English as an additional language are given appropriate support.

- On the day of the inspection there were sufficient staff to supervise children. However, at times staff leave the area they were working in to go to other parts of the nursery. They do not always communicate this to other staff members, meaning that they are not aware that they have been left alone with children. Children's safety is further compromised because of unsafe equipment in the outdoor play area. A wooden climbing frame is in a poor state of repair. There is stagnant water in the rims of tyres as well as an unsafe hole in the concrete surface. Staff do not identify these risks when carrying out routine safety checks.
- Children benefit from regular access to outdoor play. The home-cooked meals provide children with a balanced diet. Drinking water is available at all times. Children know when to wash their hands. However, staff do not always adhere to appropriate hygiene procedures. They do not change gloves or clean the mat between changing different children's nappies. Some of the furniture in the dining room is dirty and stained with food. This compromises children's health.
- Parents report that their children are happy and settled. They receive regular communication from the nursery. They say staff are approachable and respond effectively to any areas of concern.
- Since the last inspection, managers have developed an effective approach to managing children's behaviour. As a result, staff are consistent in how they talk to children who may struggle to regulate their emotions. Staff say that they feel well-supported by managers. A system of staff supervision has just been put in place. However, it is not yet sufficiently embedded to ensure areas for development are identified.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Although the manager has developed a comprehensive safeguarding policy, staff's knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe remains weak. Staff can recognise and identify the signs and symptoms of some forms of abuse and neglect. However, they do not demonstrate an awareness of the 'Prevent' duty guidance nor of county lines. In addition, their understanding of who they need to contact if they have concerns about a child is not secure. Appropriate procedures are in place to ensure the safe recruitment and ongoing suitability checks for staff are in place. All staff hold first-aid qualifications.

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
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ensure all staff understand the safeguarding policy and procedures so that they are able to identify signs of possible abuse and know how to report any concerns appropriately	07/10/2022
improve staff's knowledge and understanding of the 'Prevent' duty guidance so they can identify the signs that a child may be at risk of extremism or radicalisation	07/10/2022
ensure that staff are always deployed effectively so that children are adequately supervised at all times	07/10/2022
comply with health and safety legislation to ensure that the premises and equipment is safe and hygienic. This relates to both the furniture in the dining room and the outdoor space at the rear of the nursery	07/10/2022
ensure that appropriate hygiene measures are put in place when changing children's nappies	07/10/2022
carry out more rigorous risk assessments of the outdoor areas and the equipment used outside to ensure everything is in a good state of repair and safe for children, or that unsafe fixed equipment is not accessible to children.	07/10/2022

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

	Due date
construct and share with staff a clear and coherently sequenced curriculum so that children are provided with appropriate and meaningful learning opportunities	07/10/2022

ensure that staff plan and deliver challenging and enjoyable activities, based on children's individual interests and learning needs, in order to support children to make progress in all areas of learning.	07/10/2022
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To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- embed arrangements for the supervision of staff in order to identify areas for professional development
- consider how to improve daily routines to maximise children's learning at all points in the day.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY250640
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	10239616
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Claire Thornhill and Rachel Gallagher Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP905169
Telephone number	01751 476728
Date of previous inspection	5 April 2022

Information about this early years setting

Humpty Dumpty's registered in 2003. The setting employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. In addition, the manager has a relevant level 5 qualification. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jan Batchelor

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 manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during snack time.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

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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