

Inspection of Little Beaver Childcare Limited

St Marys Hall, St. Marys Road, Glossop, Derbyshire SK13 8DN

Inspection date: 19 December 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

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's emotional needs are not met. They do not consistently receive the reassurance they need when feeling upset. Children, who spend parts of their day crying, are not provided with enough comfort to help them settle. During the inspection, a child's cry was mimicked by a member of staff. Although children generally behave well, staff do not support them to manage their feelings and behaviour. This has a significant impact on their emotional well-being.

Babies choose their own books and sit on staff's knees to share a story. They smile and celebrate their achievements with the staff in the room saying, 'I did it' as they create paintings using sponges and brushes. However, toddlers are not allowed to make the same choices in their learning. They struggle to sit for stories and when they try to move away, staff bring them back to sit on the rug or tell them to sit down. Children become bored and frustrated. This negatively impacts on their attitudes towards learning.

The setting is not secure and the manager has not ensured that staff know how to respond appropriately to concerns about children's welfare and safety. Some areas of the setting are cluttered and disorganised. Children sit on dirty rugs and cushions as they play and do not always have the space they need to engage in the activities on offer. For example, during the Christmas party all children are provided with one large sheet of paper and pens, but they struggle to find a space on the floor to take part in the activity. This limits the learning opportunities for children.

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

- Leaders and staff demonstrate a good understanding of what children can already do and their next steps in learning. However, they do not provide children with the opportunities needed to develop their skills. Children are provided with numerous whole group activities that do not appropriately support their development. For example, toddlers sit for a long period of time and become quickly bored and disengage from a game of pin the tail on the donkey.
- Leaders and staff do not have consistently high expectations for vulnerable children or those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). For example, when children with SEND try to take part in a story with their peers, they are moved away. On another occasion, children who find it difficult to sit during a group story time are placed on staff's knees, where they are unable to see the book. This significantly impacts the outcomes for children and widens the gap between them and their peers.
- Staff working with younger children do not consistently follow hygiene practices. For example, staff do not wash their hands or children's hands during nappy

changing routines. Staff are not teaching children to use soap and water to ensure their hands are fully clean before eating. This poor practice increases the risk of infection and does not promote children's good health.

- The acting manager has put in place a supervision system for staff and is starting to identify some of the areas for development and training in the setting. However, leaders have failed to use supervisions to ensure staff safeguarding knowledge is robust and they understand the safeguarding policy for the setting. Staff well-being is discussed as part of this process and the acting manager is committed to supporting staff with their professional and personal needs. However, this is in its infancy and is not yet having the necessary impact on the quality of practice in the setting.
- Sleeping arrangements for children are not suitable. One member of staff supervises six children in pushchairs, rocking them to sleep in a cold area of the room in front of an open door. Young children sleep in a pushchair that does not lay flat and no blankets or bedding are provided to keep children warm or comfortable. Older children sleep on dirty floors and rugs in the corner of a noisy room with their heads in an uncomfortable and upright position. Staff do not have up-to-date knowledge of the requirements for safer sleeping arrangements. This puts children's health and well-being at risk.
- Parents report that they are happy with the care their children receive. They say that staff are warm, helpful and respond well to children. Some parents are so happy with the provision that after leaving the nursery their children attend breakfast and after-school club.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Leaders and staff in the setting do not have sound knowledge of the possible signs of abuse. Although staff know who to report concerns to about children within the nursery, they are not confident about how to report concerns to external agencies. This includes not knowing who to report concerns to about staff suitability. Staff carry out risk assessments and daily checks on the outdoor area to ensure it is safe for children's play. However, they fail to manage other risks in the building. For example, a fire door into the building was found open during inspection, affording unsupervised access to areas where children play. Leaders fail to ensure the correct vehicle insurance is in place for transporting children to and from school.

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
--	-----------------

ensure staff respond consistently to the emotional needs of children and improve practice to support behaviour in the setting	20/01/2023
improve the quality of teaching in the nursery to ensure all children are engaged in meaningful play experiences and to support next steps in learning	03/02/2023
provide a clean, tidy and organised environment for children to play in	03/02/2023
ensure vulnerable children and those with SEND have opportunities to engage in play alongside their peers	20/01/2023
improve hygiene practices in the setting in relation to handwashing for both staff and children	20/01/2023
improve the sleeping arrangements for children of all ages, ensuring they have access to clean and appropriate bedding	20/01/2023
ensure all staff understand the safeguarding policy and procedure and are able to demonstrate a secure knowledge of how to identify and report child protection concerns and allegations against staff	20/01/2023
ensure the designated safeguarding lead improves their knowledge and understanding of all safeguarding matters, including allegation management and risk of radicalisation, to provide support, advice and guidance to other staff when required	20/01/2023
ensure that the premises remain secure at all times to prevent unauthorised persons entering the nursery	20/01/2023
ensure the correct insurance is in place for any vehicles and drivers transporting children.	20/01/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270736
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10233631
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 11
Total number of places	77
Number of children on roll	47
Name of registered person	Little Beaver Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP908949
Telephone number	01457 869962
Date of previous inspection	6 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

Little Beaver Childcare Limited, located in Glossop, Derbyshire, registered in 1989. There is a team of 18 nursery staff, 15 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff members hold level 6 qualifications with early years professional status, 13 hold level 3 and three are unqualified. The setting is open Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children and also provides before- and after-school care for children from local schools.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Emma Gardner

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 inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The acting manager took part in a leadership and management discussion with the inspector.
- The inspector held discussions with staff at the setting.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of key documentation.
- Parents shared their views of the setting and the inspector took these views into account.
- The inspector and the acting manager completed a learning walk together to discuss the intentions for children's learning.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022