

Inspection of Kidz Village Nursery & Pre-School

2a Pantop Business Park, Harelaw Industrial Estate, Stanley, County Durham DH9 8HW

Inspection date: 23 February 2023

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Inadequate

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children do not benefit from an ambitious curriculum that helps them to prepare well for what they need to learn next. Despite the manager understanding what it is that she wants children to learn, this is not implemented into practice. For instance, staff do not ensure that children remain engaged in purposeful play and learning. Planned activities are too challenging for very young children. Staff plan activities such as planting seeds in the outdoor area. However, young children wander off and lose interest quickly. This does not help children to develop the key skills for what they need to learn next. Furthermore, children become bored and restless as routine times of the day are not managed well. They are often left waiting for long periods of time before being introduced to what happens next. Although staff observe children and make assessments of their learning, they do not ensure that support for children's learning is consistent. This is particularly relevant for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities or with emerging development gaps in their learning.

Children show an interest in story books. They listen as staff read familiar stories to them that encourage rhyming and repetition. Staff use props to help children to interact with the story. This helps to suitably promote children's communication and language skills. Children behave well. Staff provide children with regular praise. This helps to develop children's self-esteem.

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

- Staff do not consistently follow risk assessment procedures. They do not ensure hazards are identified and minimised before taking children outside. Staff do not swiftly change children out of wet clothing after activities. Furthermore, radiators are too hot and are not covered in the nursery rooms. This does not promote children's safety and well-being.
- Although leaders evaluate the setting and have started to make some improvements, these improvements have not been maintained. The overall quality has declined since the previous inspection. Performance management procedures are not effective. There is a lack of coaching, support and mentoring for staff at the setting. This is due to the significant changes to the leadership team within the last year. In addition, there are a number of staff who are new to the setting. This means that not all staff are clear on their roles, responsibilities and expectations of children's learning and development. Despite induction programmes being in place, staff need time to settle into their roles and become familiar with the curriculum of the setting.
- There are procedures in place to offer regular communication with parents. This includes newsletters, daily feedback and communication through an online platform to help to provide a continued approach to children's learning.

However, parents provide mixed reviews about their experiences at the setting. This includes information shared from staff at handover times. This means that there are inconsistent messages to parents and not all parents feel that they receive enough information about what their children have been doing at the setting.

- Staff encourage children to wash their hands before their mealtimes and wipe their noses. Children are provided with suitably healthy meals and fresh drinking water. They have suitable access to physical activities. For instance, children, crawl, jump and climb over soft-play equipment. Furthermore, children have access to large scale model teeth and toothbrushes. They take part in imaginary games, such as pretending to brush their teeth. This helps to promote healthy lifestyles for children.
- Children form friendships. They laugh as they sit opposite one another and bounce up and down on a see-saw in the nursery garden. Children learn to share toys and resources. This helps to develop children's social skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Leaders do not monitor and address breaches to requirements. There are failings in risk assessment procedures. For example, during outdoor play, staff do not remove children from the area once hazards have been identified, such as sharp branches and twigs on a tree. This does not ensure that children's safety and well-being are prioritised. Leaders and staff understand the signs and symptoms of abuse. There are safeguarding policies in place that include the safe use of mobile phones and cameras at the setting. Furthermore, leaders and staff know how to report concerns about any allegations against staff.

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
improve risk assessment procedures to swiftly identify any hazards in the environment and ensure children's wet clothes are changed promptly	23/03/2023
implement an ambitious curriculum for all children that helps them to sustain good levels of engagement in their play and learning	23/03/2023

improve transition arrangements for children and help them to prepare for what happens next in the daily routine	23/03/2023
develop consistent strategies to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities in their play and learning	23/03/2023
improve effective performance management procedures that help to review and develop staff's practice	23/03/2023
provide a consistent approach to sharing information with parents.	23/03/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468849
Local authority	Durham
Inspection number	10249384
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	51
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Kidz Village LTD
Registered person unique reference number	RP910876
Telephone number	01207 232214
Date of previous inspection	16 March 2022

Information about this early years setting

Kidz Village Nursery & Pre-School registered in 2013. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and three hold qualifications at level 2. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emma Allison

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.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting 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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