

Inspection of Jabberwocky Day Nursery

28 Two Hedges Road, Bishops Cleeve, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire GL52 8DT

Inspection date: 5 April 2023

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

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

Failures in leaders' recruitment and vetting processes mean that not all staff have had the necessary checks to ensure they are suitable to work with children. At times, staff who have not been cleared by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) work alone with children.

Leaders and staff have created an exciting curriculum that builds on children's prior learning. Children are happy, highly motivated and curious in their learning. Staff prepare exciting activities that engage, enthral and capture children's imagination. For example, staff prepare a science activity for older children to make pretend potions. Children put on white coats and goggles in preparation. Staff and children recall previous learning about scientists and discuss why they wear protective clothing. Children place water and ingredients into test tubes and test their own theories. They add glitter to the liquid and say, 'Look, my glitter is floating. If I shake it, it sinks.' Staff support children to make links with what they are doing by asking, 'What do you think the flour will do when you add it to water?' Children consider questions carefully and answer, 'Make it thick'. Staff extend learning further by encouraging children to consider what happens if they add more water. Children reply, 'It makes it weak'.

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

- Leaders have failed to obtain DBS checks for new members of staff. At times, these staff work unsupervised with babies. Leaders do not ensure that they deploy the unvetted staff appropriately so that those staff who have been cleared can follow the setting's policies and procedures to always supervise them. This means leaders and staff are not able to ensure children's safety and well-being.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities make good progress in their learning and development. Staff work closely with parents and external agencies to ensure they meet children's individual needs. Children with communication and language delay receive good support. However, on occasion, staff ask too many questions in quick succession. They do not always give children with emerging language skills the time to process their own thoughts.
- Children have daily access to fresh air and a well-planned outside area. Leaders had identified this as an area to improve and used additional funds to develop the play area to benefit the children. Children plant flowers, make marks with water, and play hide and seek in purpose-built outbuildings. The enhanced environment supports children who prefer to learn outside very well.
- Leaders and staff work effectively with parents. Parents comment on the friendliness of staff and 'homely feel' of the setting. Staff gather useful information from parents when children start. They use this information to

identify children's interests and plan for their next stage of learning.

- Babies happily explore a clean, well-ordered environment. They toddle up and down ramps, scoop and pour pasta into containers and build small towers with bricks. During mealtimes, babies use spoons and their fingers to feed themselves. Staff provide plenty of praise to motivate and encourage children's learning further.
- Toddlers snuggle in for stories and demonstrate their listening and attention skills. Staff capture their imagination by alternating tone, pitch and dynamic to bring the story to life. Staff encourage children to consider how the characters are feeling. This helps younger children learn language to identify their emotions and explain how they are feeling.
- Leaders liaise with local schools and share children's learning and development to ensure continuity of care. However, staff teach children phonics using the incorrect letter sound. This means children repeat letter sounds incorrectly and will have to relearn this when they go into Reception class.
- Leaders and staff teach children about their local community and the wider world. For example, children visit local supermarkets and greengrocers to buy ingredients for cooking. Children enjoy celebrating a range of cultural festivals and traditions and begin to learn about the similarities and differences that exist between them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Leaders have failed to follow safer recruitment procedures and the effective deployment of staff to ensure children are protected from harm. Staff have a suitable understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. They know how to record and report any concerns, including any allegations that may occur against a member of staff. Staff teach older children how to keep themselves safe during play. For example, staff explain that looking directly at the sun can damage your eyes.

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, with particular regard to DBS checks, to ensure the suitability of staff who work with children	06/04/2023

improve the deployment of unvetted staff to make sure they do not work alone with children.	06/04/2023
---	------------

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY330720
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10280498
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	40
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	Jabberwocky Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP526104
Telephone number	01242 678075
Date of previous inspection	22 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Jabberwocky Day Nursery registered in 2006. It is situated in Bishop's Cleeve, near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The nursery operates each weekday, from 8am to 6pm, for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding to provide funded early education for children aged two-, three-, and four-years old. The setting employs 15 members of staff, of whom one holds early years teacher status, two hold a level 4, six hold a level 3, and two hold a level 2 in early years education. Four members of staff are unqualified. The manager holds an appropriate level 4 qualification in early years education.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Gwyneth Keen

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provision.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together, and leaders shared with the inspector what they want children to learn and how they will achieve this.
- The inspector and manager carried out a joint observation of a group activity.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to 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.

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 2023