

Inspection of Greenlane Little Tots Ltd

460 Green Lane, Small Heath, Birmingham B9 5QJ

Inspection date: 16 May 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's health and safety is significantly compromised. The provider does not ensure that the premises are secure and that all fire exits are free from obstruction and always accessible. She does not implement effective arrangements to ensure that the toilet areas that children use are clean and well maintained and that good hygiene practice is implemented. Furthermore, the provider fails to ensure that a member of staff who holds a paediatric first-aid qualification is always on site when children are present. She does not ensure that all staff are supported to understand their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe.

Children receive a poor education experience. Due to recent staffing issues, there are times when there are no qualified staff present when children are attending. The curriculum is weak, and staff have a poor knowledge of child development. This significantly compromises the progress that children make. The outdoor play opportunities lack challenge and do not engage the children. There are frequent occasions when children are not motivated and engaged in their play. Consequently, they seek out their own amusement, such as running around and hiding under tables.

That said, children make choices from the resources available to them. Some children concentrate as they listen to stories. They enjoy the opportunities to draw and access dressing-up costumes. Children enjoy pretending to be superheroes. They form attachments to the staff, who are friendly towards them. They show a caring attitude towards their friends and offer them a cuddle when they feel upset.

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

- Self-evaluation is poor, and the provider has failed to identify and address weaknesses. The pre-school has been experiencing management and staffing instability. The provider has now appointed a new manager and is in the process of recruiting qualified staff. However, the provider has continued to operate the pre-school without any qualified staff. This includes not having a member of staff who holds a current paediatric first-aid certificate on site when children are present. This has had a negative impact on children's experiences at the pre-school, and their well-being and safety cannot be assured.
- The provider does not prioritise children's health and safety. Staff are not vigilant about keeping the premises secure to ensure unauthorised persons cannot gain access. Although staff keep nappy-changing areas clean, they do not keep the children's toilets clean, and the provider fails to ensure these are in good working order. One toilet is blocked and does not flush correctly, and the other leaks water on to the floor. There are insufficient arrangements for staff to wash their hands after using the toilet, such as access to soap. Although staff

provide children with fruit snacks and drinks, children do not have access to drinking water throughout the day. Children who arrive when the nursery first opens in a morning do not have access to a drink for over two hours. This impacts on their overall well-being.

- The provider does not ensure that all new staff receive an effective induction so they understand their roles and responsibilities. The induction does not prioritise health and safety procedures. New staff, including the new manager, have not been informed that one of the fire exits is not accessible. This means that staff do not have all the information they need to keep children safe.
- The provider and staff lack the knowledge and experience to design and implement an ambitious curriculum. The newly appointed manager is more knowledgeable. However, she has only just started and is currently getting to know the needs of the children. Staff have low expectations of what children can achieve for themselves, such as progressing from wearing nappies to using a toilet or potty.
- Staff have a poor understanding of how young children learn and the priorities for their development that are age-appropriate. This means that their observations of children are unhelpful in determining what they need to learn next in order to build secure foundations and prepare them for the next stage of learning.
- Although children have access to a range of resources indoors, staff provide children with a very limited choice of resources and activities outdoors. Children who are not interested in playing with the ball quickly become bored and restless because there are no other resources for them to choose from. Staff struggle to keep the children focused on productive play, and they end the brief outdoor session abruptly. Although children have some appropriate opportunities to practise their fine motor skills indoors, staff provide very limited opportunities for children to develop and strengthen their large-muscle movements and to be physically active. This impacts on their overall physical development.
- Staff do not use effective strategies to help children to understand what is expected from them. At times, this leads to children presenting with some disruptive behaviour, and they ignore the staffs' instructions.
- Parents say that staff give them feedback about their children and talk to them about the activities their children have completed.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider does not complete effective risk assessment, specifically related to the fire exits and security of the premises. One fire exit is blocked. However, not all staff are aware of this. Furthermore, they do not always have ready access to the key to unlock the remaining fire exit door. Staff leave the key in their pockets or behind a box of tissues, which children can easily access. This compromises children's safety in the event of a fire and hinders staff being able to quickly evacuate children from the premises. In addition, staff do not ensure that the front door is always secured to stop unauthorised persons from gaining access to the

premises and areas where children play. There are times when there is no person present who holds a paediatric first-aid qualification. That said, the provider completes appropriate vetting checks to verify that staff are suitable to work with children. The manager and staff understand some signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and about the 'Prevent' duty. They know how to report any concerns they may have about a child.

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
improve risk assessment and take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises in the case of fire	06/06/2023
take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises	06/06/2023
ensure that at least one person who has a current paediatric first-aid certificate is on the premises and available at all times when children are present	06/06/2023
ensure that the staffing arrangements meet the legal requirements so that when children are present, at least one member of staff holds an approved qualification at level 3 and above and at least half of all other staff hold an approved level 2 or 3 qualification	06/06/2023
improve the arrangements relating to the hygiene management of the setting and ensure that children's toilets are clean and well maintained	06/06/2023
ensure that children have access to drinking water	06/06/2023

ensure that all staff, including the manager, receive induction and effective ongoing training to help them understand their roles and responsibilities.	06/06/2023
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To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
improve knowledge of child development to design a curriculum that meets the learning needs of the children	06/06/2023
consider the individual needs, interests and development of each child, and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all areas of learning and development	06/06/2023
improve the strategies used to help children to learn how to manage their feelings and behaviour	06/06/2023
improve the planning for children's outdoor play opportunities so they can benefit from the outdoor learning experiences.	06/06/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	2690679
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	10291447
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	Greenlane Little Tots Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2690677
Telephone number	07578728065
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Greenlane Little Tots Ltd registered in September 2022. It is located in Bordesley Green, Birmingham. The nursery employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, the manager holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 6 and one member of staff holds a qualification at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 3.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Anne Dyoss

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.
- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information received about the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The provider 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 quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- Children interacted with the inspector during the inspection.

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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