

# Inspection of Tudor House Day Nursery @ Mill Hill

New Chapel Street, BLACKBURN BB2 4DT

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Inspection date:

26 June 2023

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## **Overall effectiveness**

## **Inadequate**

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The quality of education

**Inadequate**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Requires improvement**

Personal development

**Inadequate**

Leadership and management

**Inadequate**

Overall effectiveness at previous  
inspection

Outstanding

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is inadequate

The provider has not given appropriate attention to the quality of care, safety and education that they provide at this nursery. Children's safety is compromised due to the lack of oversight of the nursery practice by leaders and managers. For instance, some leaders place babies in rooms that contain unsuitable toys and furniture. Children play in outdoor areas where risks have not been properly checked by leaders. When providing babies with lunch, some staff practices are unhygienic. Additionally, the provider and leaders do not make sure that they deploy enough staff to care for children when they arrive in the mornings. However, when these risks and weak practices were brought to the manager's attention by the inspector, she acted immediately to begin to resolve the issues.

Children do not learn the knowledge needed to make progress. This is because the curriculum designed by the manager is weak. The manager does not identify the key information that staff need in order to teach children, or make the learning intention clear. This leads to staff providing activities that simply occupy children, rather than helping them to develop. Children's learning needs are not met.

In general, children settle well. They behave themselves and make friends with other children. This is because staff help children to remember the 'golden rules' of behaviour. Children learn to use kind hands and listening ears. Staff teach children about the important jobs that adults hold in society, such as being a paramedic and a dentist. Babies show that they feel safe, such as when they snuggle in closely to staff.

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

- The provider does not make sure that there is always a manager or deputy present to ensure the safe and effective running of the nursery. This places children's safety at risk. Furthermore, leaders do not make sure that there are enough members of staff to work directly with the children at the beginning of the day. This means that staff are caring for more children than is safe to do so. Children's learning and care needs are not met.
- Leaders fail to identify some of the risks to children and babies. Staff bring babies and toddlers into the pre-school room where they have access to resources that are unsafe for them to use. Additionally, leaders do not ensure that staff understand their responsibility to complete risk assessments of the nursery environment. This leads to staff not understanding other dangers to children. Children are at risk of injury.
- Children do not learn the essential knowledge that they need for the next stage of their education. This is because the leaders do not provide a well-thought-out curriculum for children that builds on their previous knowledge. Staff provide

activities for children without clear purpose and this holds back children's learning.

- Staff working with babies are gentle and caring. They offer cuddles when babies need reassurance. Staff try to do their best but leaders deploy some unqualified staff to work with babies. Leaders do not provide training for staff which help them learn about the care of babies. This means that some staff do not understand the development and learning of babies. Babies' needs are not met.
- Staff talk, read and sing with the children. Children learn the language of feelings through stories that staff read to them. They enjoy re-enacting well-known stories when playing outdoors with staff. However, sometimes, staff try to sing nursery rhymes with children over loud pop music. Children do not clearly hear the letter sounds that they need to learn. This impacts on their speech and language development.
- Leaders do not ensure that staff have a good enough understanding of hygiene practices. Staff do not provide children with soap and towels to wash and dry their hands. Some staff place meals for babies on top of a recently used nappy changing mat, meaning that children are at risk of illness.
- Leaders do not make sure that staff promote children's self-care skills well. Staff do not give children opportunities to develop their independence, such as when pouring their drinks or serving meals. Staff provide too much help for the children at these important learning times. Children do not develop self-confidence and responsibility.
- Generally, children behave well and listen to instructions from staff. However, at times, children become overexcited and noisy when staff do not support them effectively.
- Parents say that they are happy to bring their children to the nursery. They report that their children make progress. However, leaders do not make sure that all parents are informed about the name of their child's key person. This means that some parents are not sure who to speak to about their child's learning.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider and leaders fail to ensure that there are always enough qualified members of staff to meet the needs of children and babies. They have neglected to check staff's understanding of their responsibilities to undertake risk assessments to ensure that the premises and equipment are safe. Additionally, some staff's practice is unhygienic. These lapses in practice put children's safety at risk. The provider and leaders ensure that staff receive training in safeguarding and paediatric first aid. This helps staff to be able to spot the possible signs that a child may be at risk of neglect or abuse. Staff are clear about the actions they must take if they are concerned about a child's welfare or a colleague's conduct.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the**

**provider must:**

	<b>Due date</b>
ensure that there are always enough qualified members of staff deployed to meet the needs of babies	30/06/2023
ensure that staff are always deployed so that the needs of the children are met, and they are always safe	30/06/2023
ensure that the person left in charge, in the absence of the manager, is capable and qualified to do so	07/07/2023
ensure that staff consistently follow robust hygiene practices to reduce the risk of the spread of infection	30/06/2023
ensure that staff working with children under two-years-old receive training that specifically addresses the care of babies	29/08/2023
take all reasonable steps to ensure that children and babies are not exposed to risks and ensure that risk assessments are completed effectively	30/06/2023
develop and implement a well-designed and challenging curriculum that builds on children's prior knowledge.	29/08/2023

**To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:**

- improve knowledge of how to develop children's independence so that they acquire self-confidence and responsibility.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY536929
<b>Local authority</b>	Blackburn with Darwen
<b>Inspection number</b>	10297080
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	53
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	85
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Synergy Day Care Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP533943
<b>Telephone number</b>	01254 433681
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	21 August 2018

## Information about this early years setting

Tudor House Day Nursery at Mill Hill registered in 2016 and is based in Blackburn. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, two members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 5, and four members of staff hold relevant qualifications ranging from level 4 to level 2. Two members of staff are unqualified. The nursery operates from Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 6pm, all year round. The nursery is in receipt of funding for early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Andrea Vaughan

## 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.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and talked to the inspector about the curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- 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 of group activities 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.

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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