

# Inspection of Macclesfield Day Nursery

Macclesfield Day Nursery, 142 Chester Road, Macclesfield SK11 8PT

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Inspection date: 9 August 2023

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## **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 safety is compromised in this nursery. This is because the leadership team has not taken all reasonable steps to ensure that children are not exposed to risks or that risk assessments inform staff practice. Leaders have not ensured that children's behaviour is managed in an appropriate way. Staff tell children what not to do. However, they do not support children to understand how their behaviour impacts others. The leadership team has not ensured that every child's care is tailored to meet their individual needs. Some staff do not have a thorough knowledge and understanding of how young children learn. Therefore, they do not plan learning experiences that support children to make good progress. The staffing arrangements across the nursery, particularly in the outdoor area, do not always meet the needs of children and ensure their safety. Due to the size of the garden, there are times when children are not adequately supervised and are exposed to risks. For example, large piles of broken resources are accessible to children.

Despite the weaknesses in this nursery, the new manager has a positive attitude and plans to bring about change to improve the outcomes for children. The manager is able to rectify some of the weaknesses on the day. This reduces the immediate risk of harm to children. Staff are kind and nurturing towards children. They know the children well and offer lots of reassurance and cuddles when children are tired. This helps to support children to settle.

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

- The leadership team has not taken all reasonable steps to ensure that children are not exposed to risks. For example, large windows, which are accessible to children, are open throughout the day. These have gaps large enough for children to climb out of or unauthorised people to climb into. Leaders and staff have not identified these as a hazard and, consequently, measures taken to minimise or remove the risk have not been effective.
- The leadership team has not ensured that risk assessments inform staff practice. For example, staff encourage older children to use the toilet independently. However, hazardous materials, such as nappy cream, nappy bags, plastic gloves and plastic aprons, are left in reach of children. This compromises children's safety.
- Leaders have not ensured that staff have the skills to support children with their behaviour. There are several conflicts throughout the day that result in children pushing, shoving and hitting each other. Staff tell the children what not to do. However, they do not support children to understand the nursery expectations or how their actions affect others. Therefore, children repeat these patterns of behaviour.

- The leadership team has not ensured that staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children. For example, in the large garden area, there are old, broken resources, which are accessible to children. At times, children are not adequately supervised while outside due to the size of the garden. This means that children have access to hazardous items. Furthermore, some children take themselves off to the end of the garden and sit alone for long periods of time. Children's individual needs are not always met.
- The curriculum intent is not ambitious and does not consider how to sequence learning for children. However, the new manager has plans to develop the curriculum to ensure that children's learning needs are met. However, these plans have not yet been embedded. Consequently, not all children are ready for their next stage in learning.
- The leadership team has not ensured that all staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child development. Consequently, some staff do not plan learning experiences that support children to make good levels of progress in their learning. However, staff are caring and do facilitate children's play. Children are settled and enjoy playing with the resources on offer.
- The leadership team has not ensured that staff are adequately trained on how to support children with their individual needs. Staff know which children have special educational needs and/or disabilities. However, they do not always have tailored plans in place to support children and help them to make the progress of which they are capable.
- Children enjoy a healthy, home-cooked meal. Staff support children to develop some independence skills as they have a go at feeding themselves. Children have ample opportunity to play outside in the large garden. They get fresh air and regular exercise. However, staff do not always sequence children's learning and support them to build on what they already know and can do.
- Staff work hard to establish positive relationships with parents. They use different methods of communication, such as an online app and social media, to share information about children's time in nursery with parents. Parents comment that they feel well informed about the activities that their children engage in at nursery.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The leadership team has not ensured that risk assessments identify and adequately minimise or remove hazards across the nursery environment. Due to poor behaviour management, children are at risk of injury as they become frustrated with each other. Staff are not always deployed effectively to adequately supervise children. Consequently, children are exposed to hazards such as large broken resources, large open windows and hazardous materials. Despite these weaknesses, staff have an adequate knowledge and understanding of the potential signs and symptoms of abuse. They are aware of how to correctly report concerns about the welfare of children or allegations about other members of staff. Staff are trained in paediatric first aid and know what to do in the event of an emergency.

## 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
take all reasonable steps to ensure that children are not exposed to risks and that risk assessments inform staff practice	06/09/2023
ensure that staffing arrangements, particularly in the outdoor area, meet the needs of children and ensure their safety	06/09/2023
ensure that children's behaviour is managed in an appropriate way	06/09/2023
ensure that every child's learning and care are tailored to meet their individual needs	06/09/2023
ensure that staff undertake appropriate training and professional development opportunities to support them to offer quality learning and development experiences for children, which continually improves.	06/09/2023

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:**

	Due date
strengthen the curriculum to ensure that staff plan ambitious and enjoyable experiences for each child in all areas of learning and development.	04/10/2023

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY491094
<b>Local authority</b>	Cheshire East
<b>Inspection number</b>	10298686
<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>	52
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	92
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Macclesfield Day Nursery Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP902311
<b>Telephone number</b>	01625 422315
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	26 January 2022

## Information about this early years setting

Macclesfield Day Nursery registered in 2015. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 13 hold an appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above and five at level 2. The nursery opens from 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

Suzanne Fenwick

## Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- 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 discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to 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.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- 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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