

Inspection of Newtown Buttercups Ltd

318 Summer Lane, BIRMINGHAM B19 3RH

Inspection date:

3 October 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

Managers and staff do not implement effective procedures to safeguard children. They are not alert to indicators of possible child protection concerns. Therefore, they do not respond to these swiftly enough or in an appropriate way to keep children safe. Record keeping is weak. Child protection records and information about children are not adequately maintained, which further impacts on the safety and welfare of children.

Children lack stimulation because staff do not provide them with challenging experiences during their day. Staff and managers have very little ambition for children's learning. Older children play on see-saws outdoors and repeat posting a ball through a hoop at their level. Younger children pick up and wear different puppets. However, they quickly get bored because they are able to complete the tasks with ease. In turn, this leads to children showing challenging and difficult behaviours. Staff do not recognise this. Therefore, they do not provide new experiences to distract them or use children's interests to extend on their learning. While staff do tell children not to do certain things that could harm themselves or others, they do not provide explanations to help children to understand what is expected of them.

Older children do develop some independence. They know how to wash their own hands when they become dirty or before mealtimes. Older children practise using a ladle to serve their own meals.

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

- There have been several changes to staffing and management in the nursery. The recently appointed manager does not fully understand their role and responsibilities. There is a lack of oversight from the provider and manager. They are unaware of many weaknesses within the provision in order to bring about the required improvement in a timely way.
- Managers and staff do not understand their duty to safeguard children. Child protection procedures are weak and do not ensure that concerns about children are responded to promptly enough. This leaves some children at possible risk of harm. Child protection records are not adequately maintained and lack significant detail and information. Managers have failed to ensure that all required information about children is maintained and recorded. This impacts on the safeguarding of children.
- The quality of education that children receive is poor. The manager does not have clear or high enough expectations for children's learning. The curriculum is narrow and does not provide children with a breadth of experiences. As a result, children do not make enough progress in their learning.

- Staff, including those who have worked at the nursery for a longer period of time, do not know children well enough. They are unclear about which children they are allocated to be a key person for. Staff do not know what children like to do and are unclear about children's individual stages of development. Consequently, children's care and education are not tailored to meet their individual needs.
- Staff do not use assessment purposefully. This includes the progress check for children aged between two and three years. Staff do not identify gaps in children's development in a timely way. Therefore, action is not taken promptly to provide these children with the required support to help them to catch up in their learning. There is no support in place for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The manager is reliant on waiting for other professionals to visit to identify how to support these children, despite some having attended for longer periods of time. This means that children are not supported to make the progress they are capable of.
- Staff do not plan effectively for children's learning. They provide a small range of resources for children to play with. However, they do not consider what children need to learn next. The few activities provided for children lack challenge. As a result, the progress that children make in their development is limited.
- Children's communication and language development is not well supported. Many children are unable to communicate verbally. Staff do not encourage children to speak and do not provide enough opportunities to help children to use language. Although some information is obtained from parents about children's home languages, this is not used to help children to communicate.
- Children spend a lot of their time bored. This results in some children displaying poor and challenging behaviours. Staff do not consistently intervene or respond to this. They do not help children to understand how to manage their own feelings and behaviours, so that they can express themselves in other ways.
- Staff are not alert to children's basic needs. They do not provide younger children with access to fresh drinking water and are unaware that children have not been provided with drinks throughout the session. This impacts on children's health.
- Staff, including managers, do not have a good enough understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Weaknesses in teaching and practice are not being challenged or addressed quickly enough. Managers do not provide effective coaching and support to staff to help them to improve the quality of their work. As a result, the quality of care and education that children receive is inadequate.
- Parents are generally happy with the service that the nursery provides. They say that their children enjoy attending and older children talk about their day at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Managers and staff are not alert to possible child protection concerns. They do not recognise potential immediate risks to children's safety and welfare when they do

not attend the nursery as expected. Consequently, they fail to take action in a timely way to ensure children's safety. Managers do not maintain accurate and sufficiently detailed child protection records, which further impacts on the safety of children. Required information about children is not obtained or recorded to ensure every child is kept safe and that their needs are met. That said, managers implement effective procedures for checking the suitability of staff who work directly with children.

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
ensure that all staff, including the lead practitioner for safeguarding, understands how to identify and respond to any issues of concern about a child in a timely way	23/10/2023
ensure that all information and records, including child protection records, are clear and sufficiently detailed, to promote the safeguarding of children and the safe and efficient management of the setting	23/10/2023
ensure that all required information about children is obtained and recorded accurately	23/10/2023
provide all children with access to fresh drinking water at all times	23/10/2023
ensure that all staff manage children's behaviour in an appropriate and consistent way, to help children to understand what is expected from them	23/10/2023
implement an effective key-person system, which ensures that staff know each child well and provide care and learning that is tailored to meet their individual needs	23/10/2023

provide all staff, including managers, with effective supervision, which includes monitoring, coaching and support, to ensure that they fully understand and fulfil their roles and responsibilities	23/10/2023
put effective arrangements in place to provide support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.	23/10/2023

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

	Due date
use assessment, including the progress check at age two, to identify gaps in children's learning and development, and ensure that any concerns are addressed in a timely and appropriate way	30/11/2023
ensure that planning is used effectively to provide children with suitable challenging activities and experiences that take account of their interests, needs and stages of development	30/11/2023
develop and implement an ambitious and well-sequenced curriculum that provides children with a breadth of experiences so that they are supported to make progress in readiness for the next stage in their learning	30/11/2023
improve the support for children's communication and language development, so that all children, including those who speak English as an additional language, develop skills to become fluent communicators.	30/11/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY466301
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	10279567
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 12
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	38
Name of registered person	Newtown Buttercups Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900930
Telephone number	0121 359 4872
Date of previous inspection	6 February 2023

Information about this early years setting

Newtown Buttercups Ltd registered in 2013. It is situated in Birmingham. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery has nine members of staff employed. Of these, one holds a qualification at level 6, five hold qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Lisa Bennett
Christine Ward

Inspection activities

- The inspectors discussed any continued 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 inspectors completed a learning walk to gather information about how the provision and curriculum are organised.
- The manager and one inspector carried out a joint observation to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching.
- One inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspectors spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching to assess the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspectors spoke with the provider, manager and deputy manager about the leadership and management of the setting.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
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