

Inspection of MD DONCASTER LIMITED T/A Stadium Stars Day Nursery

Club Doncaster, Keepmoat Stadium, Stadium Way, Doncaster DN4 5JW

Inspection date: 4 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	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's individual needs are not met. Weaknesses in staff's safeguarding knowledge result in children's welfare not being maintained. Staffing issues are having a detrimental impact on the quality of provision for all children. Due to staff leaving, children are no longer cared for by consistent staff. Staff covering in the nursery have received no induction, so they are unfamiliar with policies, routines, and children's individual needs. This, along with the lack of organisation of the room and resources, leads to a chaotic and disorderly environment, where children's needs are not met.

Children climb over low-level dividers between two areas of the room, with staff failing to manage this behaviour appropriately or consistently. While some staff try to engage children, quality interactions are limited due to staff being unfamiliar with the nursery and children's individual needs. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) regularly wander around with little to no support or staff engagement. This prevents children from achieving and making progress.

Management has not identified and shared a clear curriculum with staff. While staff have an overview of children's progress, they are not using this information to build on each child's prior knowledge. Some staff have a general idea of the skills promoted during children's play, while other staff have a limited awareness. There is a basic routine in place, which includes singing, story time, and mealtimes. However, opportunities for children to engage in quality learning experiences in line with their developmental needs are limited.

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

- Leadership and management show a lack of capacity to sustain and maintain improvement. As some areas of prior weakness are improved upon, other areas of weakness emerge. For example, safety of children on outings has improved, as has the cleanliness of the nursery room. However, weaknesses with the curriculum, staff's child protection knowledge and induction of new staff result in children's needs not being met and prevent staff from building on children's prior knowledge and skills.
- The organisation of resources and where children are cared for is inconsistent and unknown to staff. The removable room divide, so that younger children can have their own play space, is inconsistently used. Management has failed to assign children to consistent areas, resulting in confusion for the staff and children. The resources children can access are limited, especially in the area for younger children. As children regularly climb between the area, this is not managed by staff effectively. Staff do not support children to learn safe behaviours. They do not consistently challenge children or help them to learn

why climbing over resources to get into other areas of the room is not acceptable or appropriate.

- While staff have identified children with SEND, they fail to provide them with targeted support and interventions to meet their needs. This does not help to close gaps in children's achievements.
- Staff are unfamiliar with the skills and knowledge management would like children to develop. Staff monitor children's progress but fail to use this information to plan purposeful experiences for each child. Staff working with younger children provide them with lots of singing and stories, with little else planned for them to engage in. When experiences are provided, these are focused on what children enjoy doing rather than the skills they can promote.
- Staff working with the older children have more of an idea of how activities can support children's general skills and knowledge. However, these are not focused on individual children's learning, and the quality of interactions are not consistent.
- While children enjoy regular walks to see the ducks, there is no clear focus on what staff want children to gain from this experience. Agency and new staff are given no instructions so are unclear of their roles. When some children refuse to participate, staff do not know how to manage this until it is resolved by the operations manager. This results in children becoming restless as they wait.
- Children's communication skills are inconsistently promoted. A lot of older children continue to have a dummy, even when they show they feel settled and secure. Staff are unaware of the negative impact dummies can have on children's speech. This means that staff do not discourage their use in nursery. Story and singing times are sometimes too long and background music too loud, resulting in children losing focus. At other times, when children choose not to engage, they wander around the room unsupported by any staff.
- Upset children are sometimes not comforted appropriately. When children injure themselves, staff offer words of reassurance, but little is done to review the potential injury or provide physical comfort. This results in children remaining upset for longer than necessary. When children are unsettled after sleeping, staff offer them no comfort as they place them onto the floor while they are crying. This does not support children's emotional well-being.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff have a sound awareness of the indicators associated with the four main types of abuse. However, some staff lack knowledge of possible indicators associated with abuse in the wider community, including aspects like radicalisation. Management has secure recruitment and vetting procedures in place. However, while there is a sound induction procedure, management has failed to implement this with new staff. This means that these staff are unfamiliar with policies, routines and where specific records and documents are located. Staff's knowledge of how to record accidents has been improved through training. The provider has also reminded staff about the risk assessment procedures for the outdoor area.

This is to ensure that staff adhere to these procedures so that potential accidents to children are minimised.

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 staff have an up-to-date knowledge of all indicators of abuse, including any reasons to suspect abuse and neglect outside of the setting	16/10/2023
ensure staff understand the procedures to follow if they have any child protection concerns about a child and/or if an allegation is made against a staff member	16/10/2023
ensure the premises and equipment are consistently organised so that children's individual needs are met	16/10/2023
ensure arrangements are in place to support children with SEND so that they benefit from effective planning and quality interactions to meet their needs	16/10/2023
ensure effective induction procedures are implemented for all staff, including temporary and agency staff who work at the nursery	16/10/2023
ensure children's behaviour is managed appropriately and consistently, with specific regard to children when they climb.	16/10/2023

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

	Due date

ensure management identifies and shares a clear curriculum intent that reflects the broad range of skills, knowledge and attitudes for children to learn	08/11/2023
ensure staff use their knowledge of children's interests and level of achievement to plan quality experiences that build on each child's prior knowledge and skills	08/11/2023
ensure staff respond to children's emerging needs and guide their development through warm, positive interactions, coupled with secure routines for play and learning	08/11/2023
ensure there is a consistent approach to supporting children's good communication and language skills.	08/11/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	2723055
Local authority	Doncaster
Inspection number	10311387
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	54
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	MD DONCASTER LIMITED
Registered person unique reference number	2723054
Telephone number	07311398400
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

MD Doncaster Limited T/A Stadium Stars Day Nursery re-registered in 2023. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 7pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Melanie Arnold

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 provider and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery. The provider and operation manager spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- Staff and children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.

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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