

# Inspection of Aunt Mary's

Stonehouse, Dell Road, Healy Dell, ROCHDALE, Lancashire OL12 6BG

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Inspection date: 3 June 2024

## **Overall effectiveness**

## **Requires improvement**

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The quality of education

**Requires improvement**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Requires improvement**

Personal development

**Requires improvement**

Leadership and management

**Requires improvement**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

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

### **The provision requires improvement**

The nursery has undergone several changes since the last inspection, including new ownership. There have been significant changes to staffing since the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in a relatively new staff team. The current arrangements for monitoring staff practice do not fully identify all areas for improvement and staff training needs. For example, new staff do not consistently follow some of the settings policies and procedures. Consequently, care practises do not help children to learn how to manage their personal needs and behaviour appropriately. However, the experienced manager has begun work with new and less experienced staff to help them develop their skills in implementing the curriculum.

Staff are friendly towards children, as such most children settle and enjoy exploring the environment. Children are happy and play creatively, often leading their own play. When children are upset staff offer them reassurance by giving hugs which helps children develop self-assurance. However, some staff do not fully support children to effectively manage their emerging feelings. For example, when children show frustration or impatience staff do not model appropriate behaviours and responses. This means that children do not learn how to regulate their own behaviour appropriately.

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

- The owner and manager work well together. Staff report that they feel well supported by the owner who attends the setting regularly to support all aspects of the staff's work. Together, the owner and manager have identified some areas of practice and elements of the provision that need to improve. However, the overall self-evaluation and monitoring of staff practice is not effective in bringing about continuous improvement for children.
- Staff do not consistently promote the good health of children. This is because staff do not receive the support and modelling they require to enable them to follow the settings care practices fully. For example, staff change nappies using the same gloves for multiple children and do not wipe down the changing mat in between use. Staff do not always ensure that children wash their hands after using the bathroom or before eating meals. Furthermore, toothbrushing and nose wiping regimes are not implemented hygienically. Children do not learn the healthy habits they need to become increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs.
- Staff do not deliver the managers curriculum for personal, social and emotional development successfully. This is because some staff do not have the skills required to support children to behave well. For instance, when children struggle to take turns, staff remove the item from children rather than teaching them

how to share. This means that children's behaviour sometimes impacts negatively on theirs and others learning.

- Staff provide children with activities that support their speech, language and communication skills well. For instance, babies learn how to use some baby signs to communicate. Older children join in with 'looking and listening' sessions to help them tune in to language. Staff read and sing to children often. For example, babies delight in finding the shark fin in the book 'Shark in the park'. Children learn new words, begin to understand how language works and use it in their interactions.
- Staff encourage children to develop some independence skills. Staff support children to manage age-appropriate tasks such as putting on their own shoes when playing outside and drinking from an open cup. This helps children to develop the confidence to do things for themselves and gain appropriate physical skills to support their onward education.
- The manager has a good understanding of her role and responsibilities to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. She works closely with staff, parents and external agencies such as the local authority team to make appropriate referrals to obtain extra support when needed. This means children access the early intervention they need.
- The manager and staff share the children's learning with parents and/or carers via an online tool. Additionally staff provide parents with ideas of ways to support their children's progress at home. Parents are positive about the support they and their children receive at the nursery. Parents are engaged with their child's learning and development.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

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

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

	Due date
ensure that good hygiene practices are followed throughout the routines of the day to promote the good health of all children.	24/06/2024

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

- support staff to implement effective behaviour management strategies that support children to regulate their emotions more effectively
- improve the monitoring of staff practice to identify weaknesses and provide appropriate support and training so that staff effectively fulfil their roles and responsibilities.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY413823
<b>Local authority</b>	Rochdale
<b>Inspection number</b>	10339089
<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>	1 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	42
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	41
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Right Start Day Nurseries (Greater Manchester) Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP902034
<b>Telephone number</b>	01706640272
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	30 November 2018

## Information about this early years setting

Aunt Mary's Nursery registered in 2010. The nursery is situated in Healy Dell Nature Reserve, Rochdale. The nursery employs 12 members of staff. Of these, one holds early years professional status, eight hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one member of staff holds a level 2 qualification. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, excluding bank holidays. Sessions are from 7am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Lois Hulley

## 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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to children, to find out about their time at the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual and registered individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- 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 manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during dinner time.
- Parents and carers shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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