

Popcorn Nursery

Popcorn Nursery, Woodlands Clubhouse, Priory Hospital Grounds, The Bourne,
LONDON, N14 6QY



Inspection date	6 February 2015
Previous inspection date	24 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Recruitment and vetting procedures are poor. Leadership does not always ensure that background checks are undertaken on all staff.
- Outdoor play is not accessible to the children on a daily basis, which means they have few opportunities to play and learn in this environment.
- The provider's key-person system does not always meet the needs of the children because some staff have not met the parents of the children in their care.
- Behaviour management is poor with inconsistencies in some staff's understanding of requirements. This means that not all staff promote children's well-being effectively. The assessment system is poor. Staff do not establish some children's abilities on entry, so cannot be sure of their progress.
- Staff do not always plan challenging activities to meet children's individual learning needs, or assess children's progress consistently. This hinders children's progress.

It has the following strengths

- The staff foster meaningful partnerships with some parents who speak highly of the impact the setting has had on their and their children's lives.
- The children have developed warm bonds with staff. They enjoy staff interactions. They have developed firm friendships with each other and play alongside each other in harmony.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure there are robust recruitment and vetting systems in place to check each staff member's suitability to work unsupervised with young children
- develop an effective routine for the children to access outdoor play on a daily basis
- improve the key-person system so that staff are able to meet regularly with parents to share information about the children
- ensure that all staff are aware of, and implement, the required behaviour management procedures, to promote children's well-being
- ensure that activities are planned to meet the children's individual learning needs and build on interests, to help children make the best possible progress
- improve the systems used for observational assessment, to find out children's progress and needs from the start, and then use the information gained to plan challenging activities and experiences that meet each child's individual learning needs.

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

- develop procedures for self-evaluation, to effectively monitor the quality of provision for children and promote continuous improvement.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- implement effective systems to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children, including obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- implement effective systems to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children, including obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the management team, and interacted with staff and children at various times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including the safeguarding policy, children's learning records and planning paperwork.
- The inspector spoke to the parents to gain their views about the care and learning provided.
- The inspector observed children as they played and staff practice.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor spaces available for children's use.

Inspector

Nausheen Khan

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

The quality of the teaching, planning and assessments is inconsistent because some staff lack knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements. There are limited opportunities for the children to access outdoor areas, which reduces their opportunities for outdoor play and learning. Staff do not consistently observe and assess children's progress, so do not always effectively promote children's learning needs. Children spend most of the day sitting down because staff do not always plan and provide meaningful activities to meet their individual needs. Despite this, the children are happy. They engage in some activities, such as threading pasta onto string, which helps to develop their smaller muscle skills and hand-eye coordination. Staff encourage their counting skills at such times and praise them for their achievements. The staff help children with special educational needs and/or disabilities to progress according to their needs. Owing to weak relationships with parents, the children's designated person does not keep all parents advised of their children's progress or activities.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is inadequate

Children are settled and secure in their environment. However, their well-being is compromised because of several legal responsibilities that are not met. The management team does not follow robust induction procedures, so newer staff do not understand the correct behaviour management strategies. Therefore, some staff use unnecessary physical interventions which compromise children's safety and well-being. Staff do not do enough to prepare children for school. For example, they are not developing the skills children need to achieve well at school. This affects the children's progress and future opportunities for learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate

The provider does not understand the responsibilities of the role and does not implement some requirements. The provider does not ensure that Disclosure and Barring Service checks are undertaken for all staff. Staff whose suitability is not yet confirmed, are left unsupervised with children, which compromises children's safety. Furthermore, there are no self-evaluation procedures, or induction processes, so staff lack direction in what is expected of them in their roles. As a result, staff do not effectively safeguard children. There are currently no staff supervisions completed to help develop a better-informed and skilled staff team. Staff do not receive feedback on their performance. This leads to staff providing inadequate levels of care to the children and, at times, not meeting their needs. Therefore, children miss out on challenging learning experiences, and their well-being is not promoted.

Setting details

Unique reference number	135366
Local authority	Enfield
Inspection number	846436
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	41
Name of provider	Belgin Dervis
Date of previous inspection	24 October 2011
Telephone number	020 8882 0734

Popcorn Nursery opened in 1991 and registered with Ofsted in 2001 on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. The nursery operates from a clubhouse in the grounds of Priory Hospital in Southgate. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8am to 5pm, for 46 weeks of the year. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The provider receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs eight members of staff, one of whom has Qualified Teacher Status. Of the remaining staff, one holds a qualification at level 6, and five others hold recognised qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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