

Inspection of Gummy Bears

164-166 St Albans Avenue, Ashton-Under-Lyne OL6 8TU

Inspection date: 20 May 2024

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

The provider has not ensured that risk assessments of this nursery are effective or that they inform staff practice. Parts of the premises are not suitably maintained. Furthermore, the provider has not taken all reasonable steps to ensure fire risk assessments are implemented. At times during the day, fire doors are not free of obstruction. This compromises children's safety. Due to the hazards in certain areas of the nursery, some staff are deployed to focus on supervising these areas. For example, sitting in front of heaters to prevent children from accessing these. Consequently, staff are not able to support children in their learning or to implement the curriculum effectively. Children have limited access to suitably challenging or purposeful learning. The manager has an unmanageable number of duties within her role. As a result, there is minimal opportunity for her to monitor the curriculum or coach staff to raise the quality of teaching.

The manager has implemented a key-person system. Staff work hard to build secure relationships with children. They show a caring approach. Some children struggle to settle. However, staff support children and once children do settle they are generally happy to attend. Children are warmly welcomed by staff, who want to do their best for the children in their care. However, support for children's emotional well-being is not consistent across the nursery. Children in the toddler room lack emotional stability due to their key person having additional tasks which take them away from the children for prolonged times.

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

- The provider has not ensured that all areas of the premises, that children occupy, are safe, maintained and fit for purpose. For example, stairs leading to the fire door have torn carpets, which create a tripping hazard, and fire routes are also used as play areas. This compromises the safe exit from the rooms in the event of a fire or other emergency. The provider has not taken reasonable steps to minimise risks in the outdoor play area. For example, old and broken resources have been stacked in areas that children use to play. This increases the risk of children injuring themselves.
- Risk assessments are completed daily in both the indoor and outdoor areas. However, these do not always inform staff practice. For example, staff note stagnant water in sinks and containers but do not remove these before children go out to play. This does not create a hygienic environment for children. In addition, staff fail to notice other hazards, such as trailing wires from electrical equipment, which are within easy reach of children. These increase the risk of items falling on children.
- The manager has devised a broad curriculum intent. However, staffing arrangements are not effective in supporting children to make good progress in

their learning and development. Staff are required to manage certain areas of the premises to reduce potential risks. This means that there are not adequate staff to effectively implement the curriculum. Children disengage and wander round the room. This does not install positive attitudes towards learning.

- The manager has a considerable amount of additional responsibilities within the nursery. This means she is not always able to fulfil her role. For example, the manager is responsible for cooking and preparing food. She also supports another setting, taking her out of the building for some time each week. As a result, the manager has minimal time to implement supervision arrangements for staff, such as coaching and mentoring them. Therefore, staff are not supported to build their knowledge of how children learn or how to improve the outcomes for children.
- Hygiene practice within the nursery is poor. Staff do not always support children to follow good hand washing practices and staff do not wash their hands following wiping children's noses. This increases the risk of spreading infection. Floor areas in the rooms and outside are not regularly cleaned and resources children have used, for example dried pasta and oats, are left on the floor throughout the day. This said, the food preparation areas are clean and staff preparing food have appropriate training to carry out this role.
- Children are provided with healthy snacks and meals. Mealtimes are planned to be social times with all ages of children sharing lunch together. However, there is not enough space at the tables for children to sit comfortably. As a result, children turn on their chairs, play with the chairs of children nearby or wander from the table. While staff try to supervise children, they are also expected to complete other tasks, such as washing the pots. As a result, supervision of children while eating is poor.
- Staff do not have enough information about children who attend with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Despite professionals working with children visiting the setting, children's key staff are not aware of the plans already in place to support these children. Partnership working is not embedded. As a result, children with SEND are not supported to make adequate progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

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 the premises are fit for purpose and suitable for the age of children cared for	17/06/2024
take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises in the case of fire or any other emergency, including ensuring that the fire doors are free from obstruction	17/06/2024
take all reasonable steps to ensure staff and children are not exposed to risks and that risk assessments inform staff practice	17/06/2024
ensure that staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety, and ensure that children are adequately supervised, including while eating	17/06/2024
ensure that there are appropriate arrangements in place for the supervision of staff who have contact with children and families, and that these provide support, coaching, and training for staff that promotes the interests of children	17/06/2024
ensure that staff promote the good health of children, with particular regard to good hygiene practices	17/06/2024
ensure that there are arrangements in place to support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to make good progress in their learning and development.	17/06/2024

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

	Due date
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ensure that the curriculum is implemented effectively to offer quality learning and development experiences for children that continually improves.	17/06/2024
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Setting details

Unique reference number	2710221
Local authority	Tameside
Inspection number	10350136
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 6
Total number of places	68
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Gummy Bears Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903392
Telephone number	07592039949
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Gummy Bears registered in 2022 and is located in Ashton-under-Lyne, Tameside. The setting employs four members of staff, of whom one has an appropriate early years qualification at level 6 and three at level 3. The setting opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and Christmas. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynn Richards

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 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 manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation.
- Parents 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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