

Inspection of Brightstars Day Care

97 High Street, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7BS

Inspection date:

21 November 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

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's welfare is not assured, and their learning needs are not met. The provider has made no sustained improvement since the last inspection, and the quality of provision remains inadequate. The provider has also failed to meet the actions raised in the welfare requirements notice served to them. The provider has not ensured that staff understand how to safeguard children. Some staff lack knowledge of child protection issues and how to respond to these. This puts children at risk of harm. Furthermore, children are at risk of injury because the provider has not ensured that staff know how to manage the hazards in the building.

The provider and staff do not know how to plan an effective curriculum that meets children's individual needs. Children do not have access to activities, inside or outdoors, that motivate them to learn. All children are at risk of falling behind in their learning and development as the provider does not ensure they are taught the skills they need to succeed in their learning. Children often make their own entertainment and are not engaged in meaningful learning. They become frustrated, struggle to share toys with their friends and wander around aimlessly. The provider does not ensure that staff provide a consistent approach to supporting children's behaviour. This often leaves children confused about what is expected of them.

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

- Despite Ofsted issuing a welfare requirements notice, insufficient progress has been made since the last inspection to meet the registration requirements. Furthermore, little has been done to improve the quality of care and education provided. Ofsted believes children are at risk and has suspended the provider's registration and intends on taking steps to cancel the registration.
- The provider does not have the capacity to improve the quality of education and care. The provider has completed a childcare qualification. However, it has been unable to disseminate this learning to the staff team. Furthermore, while the provider has put in place an induction, it has not provided enough support and coaching for staff, including the deputy, so that they understand their roles and responsibilities. The action taken has been ineffective in helping to raise the quality of staff's practice.
- The provider does not have an ambitious curriculum in place. Children do not benefit from planned activities, inside or outdoors, that motivate them to learn. As a result, children do not gain the broad range of skills and experiences that they need to succeed in life, and at school when the time comes.
- The quality of teaching throughout the nursery is poor. For example, staff may sit down with children and begin to guide children's learning. However, staff are

often unclear of what it is they want children to learn from the activity. Activities have not been planned and appropriate resources are not provided, and therefore no meaningful learning is achieved. For example, children correctly identified the star shape and attempted to push it into a star-shaped hole of the shape box. However, it was too large to fit, and they became frustrated. The provider had not ensured that the correct shapes were with the box to help children achieve. Another example observed was when children, who were keen to create models out of play dough, were unable to succeed because the play dough was dry and no longer malleable.

- The key-person system is ineffective. Key persons do not ensure that children's care is tailored to their individual needs. For example, when younger children show they are tired as they sit shivering in the garden, staff do nothing to the routines so they are adapted to meet their needs.
- The provider does not provide appropriate support for children who speak English as an additional language (EAL). Some staff are not aware of the languages children speak at home. Staff do not help children to understand new vocabulary so that they can understand the routines of the day. Children who speak EAL are not supported to communicate at all for long periods of time during the day.
- At times, the daily routine and activities are chaotic and disorganised. This has an impact on children's learning experiences and behaviours. For example, children have to wait for their lunches to be heated. They often sit at the table for lengthy periods of time with nothing to do. Children try to occupy themselves by crawling under the table. This means that a significant amount of time is wasted for children, and they are not involved in meaningful activities.
- The provider does not ensure that staff know how to support children's behaviour. At times, staff do not intervene at all when children experience conflict. When staff do respond, they say 'no thank you' to children. Children are often moved away by their arms or lifted by staff who fail to explore all other options to support children's understanding. As a result, children receive mixed messages and do not become confident in their knowledge of what is expected of them. This often leads to children being confused and upset.
- The provider has not appropriately made a risk assessment of the environment or taken corrective action. The radiators in the room where children play and sleep are hot and would burn if touched. The stairgates at the top of the stairs provide some safety for children when closed. However, the provider has not considered how staff manage when several children use the stairs.
- The provider has organised safeguarding training for staff. However, it has not ensured that the staff team has understood this training. The provider has failed to identify or address gaps in safeguarding knowledge. This compromises children's safety at the setting.

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?

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

	Due date
ensure staff have a robust understanding of safeguarding; understand the signs and symptoms of possible abuse; and the procedures to follow in the event of concerns or allegations	06/12/2024
ensure staff follow a consistent approach to managing children's behaviour	06/12/2024
provide appropriate support for all staff to ensure they have sufficient knowledge and understanding to carry out their roles and responsibilities effectively	06/12/2024
ensure that any person left as a named deputy to take charge in the manager's absence, has the knowledge they need to meet children's needs	06/12/2024
improve the key-person system to ensure staff focus more closely on meeting children's individual needs	06/12/2024
ensure that staff work with parents to find out about children who speak English as an additional language in order to support children's language development effectively	06/12/2024
improve the risk assessment procedures and take action to minimise or remove hazards so that children are not exposed to any unnecessary risks	06/12/2024
implement a well-sequenced curriculum to support children's learning across all areas	06/12/2024

train staff to understand and implement the setting's curriculum so that children benefit from meaningful learning experiences.	06/12/2024
---	------------

Setting details

Unique reference number	2712013
Local authority	Bedford
Inspection number	10370783
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	1 to 4
Total number of places	13
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	Mason, Simangele
Registered person unique reference number	2712012
Telephone number	07763995396
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2024

Information about this early years setting

Brightstars Day Care registered in 2022 and operates from a property in Kempston, Bedfordshire. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 5.30pm. The nursery employs four members of staff, two of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lisa Topham

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual/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 inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in 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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024