

# Inspection of Bubbly Gems Ltd

Bubbly Gems Ltd, 15 Hylton Road, Sunderland SR4 7AF

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Inspection date:

15 July 2025

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## Overall effectiveness

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## Requires improvement

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

Inadequate

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

### The provision requires improvement

Children are cared for by dedicated staff at this welcoming nursery. Staff treat children with respect and kindness, and there is always time for a cuddle. There are appropriate settling-in arrangements in place to support new starters. Leaders fully recognise the needs of the local community and provide highly flexible childcare options. This means that some children take longer to feel secure as they are not always able to attend regularly. Younger children need a lot of reassurance from the staff and sometimes struggle to engage in the play and learning opportunities available. Staff are generally responsive to their needs, however the atmosphere within the nursery is not always calm and purposeful. This does not fully promote children's emotional well-being.

There are plenty of activities provided to engage and interest children. They enjoy listening to a story about the farm, before creating their own pictures of different animals. They experiment with paint to make prints and use the water tray to wash the animal toys. Older children show focus and concentration as they play and learn together. Younger children start to show an interest in some of the sensory experiences and resources.

Children benefit from daily learning opportunities outdoors. They develop their physical skills in trips to the park and playing games together in the grassed area close to the nursery. They explore the world around them on nature walks. Additionally, they learn about the local community, for example, taking considerable interest as they wave at people working in the fire station nearby.

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

- The provider has worked hard since the last inspection to develop the nursery. She has welcomed support from her local authority. Her passion about providing a fully inclusive nursery that serves and supports the local community is highly apparent. She is starting to build a stable staff team to drive forward further improvements.
- The provider has identified the key knowledge and skills she wants children to develop during their time at nursery. There is a strong focus on the prime areas of learning. Staff can describe in general terms what they want children to learn from the different activities they provide. However, they do not fully consider individual children's needs. This means that children do not consistently benefit from activities that build on what they already know and can do.
- Stories, songs and rhymes play an important part in children's learning. Staff read to children skilfully and ask them a range of questions to support their communication and language skills. Children show considerable enthusiasm as they use musical instruments and join in the actions to familiar songs.

- Appropriate recruitment procedures are in place to ensure staff are suitable and hold the correct qualifications. There is a key-person system in place and ratio requirements are met. However, the youngest children are cared for by several different members of staff and spend most of the time in the same room as the older children. The activities planned by staff are generally more appropriate for the older children. This does not fully support the individual needs of the younger children.
- The provider understands her responsibility to monitor children's progress and development. She describes effective arrangements to work in partnership with parents to ensure that any concerns about children's progress towards their developmental milestones are addressed in the best way possible.
- The daily routines within the nursery do not consistently support children to settle and focus. Staff are not always clear about what is expected of them, so are not able to help children to understand what they will be doing next. There are a lot of changes during the day. For example, children who are engaged in independent play are brought to the carpet for a story or told it is time for a snack. This does not always help children to feel settled and secure.
- Older children are starting to become increasingly independent. They wash their hands and put on their shoes. This helps to prepare them to be ready to move on to school. Children also develop their social skills as they sit at the table and eat their meals together. They show kindness and consideration towards their friends.

## 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 and Childcare Register the provider must:**

|                                                                                                                                                                        | Due date   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| ensure that learning opportunities are planned and delivered so they build on what individual children know and can do, in order to support their progress effectively | 12/09/2025 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                               |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| ensure staffing arrangements consistently meet the needs of all children, with particular regard to the youngest children, in order to support their care, and their learning and development | 12/09/2025 |
| improve daily routines so they meet children's needs and help them to feel settled and secure.                                                                                                | 18/07/2025 |

## Setting details

|                                                    |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | 2765642                                                                           |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Sunderland                                                                        |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10392053                                                                          |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                           | Childcare on non-domestic premises                                                |
| <b>Registers</b>                                   | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Day care type</b>                               | Full day care                                                                     |
| <b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b> | 0 to 7                                                                            |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                      | 26                                                                                |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 20                                                                                |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                   | Bubbly Gems Ltd                                                                   |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b>   | 2765644                                                                           |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                            | 07725977428                                                                       |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | 30 January 2025                                                                   |

## Information about this early years setting

Bubbly Gems Limited registered in 2024 and is situated in the Millfield area of Sunderland. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above, including one who holds qualified teacher status. The provider holds a level 5 qualification. nursery is open from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, all year round except bank holidays and a week at Christmas.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Jan Batchelor

## Inspection activities

- The provider 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 observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The provider showed the inspector relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.

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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