

Inspection of Little Angels Nursery

St Michaels Church Hall, Blandford Road, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset BH15 4HP

Inspection date:

11 February 2025

Overall effectiveness

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

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

Children arrive happy and keen to attend. They form warm and trusting relationships with staff, who they spontaneously cuddle and sit with. Staff take time to find out about events in children's lives to support their well-being, such as exploring emotions to help them manage change.

Children choose freely from a good range of activities. Staff supervise children to ensure they are safe as they explore. However, when staff are too busy to join in their play or support them, some children wander or wait for long periods and lose interest. Staff plan a balanced curriculum to support children's individual learning needs. However, at times, due to the organisation of activities and deployment of staff, children do not receive the necessary interaction and miss out on the learning opportunities.

Children enjoy singing action songs and dancing to music. They join in story times when the room is quieter. Children use their imaginations, for example, playing pirates on the garden climbing frame and creating models with dough. They learn how to behave well, to share and take turns, and include others kindly in their play.

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

- Staff plan and assess children's learning from the start and quickly identify if a child is at risk of falling behind. They know what they intend children to learn next and support their personal interests. However, the provider has experienced recruitment issues recently. While they ensure adult-to-child ratio requirements are met, staff are over stretched at times during the day when meeting the diverse needs of the children. At such times, some children play alone without interaction and do not benefit from the planned activities to support their learning goals.
- Staff provide some opportunities for children to learn more and to join in discussions. For example, they involve children in stories, ask them about the models they create and help them to learn about shapes. However, when the room becomes very noisy during activities and mealtimes, staff do not hear children speaking, asking questions and needing help. This does not help to support children's needs or communication and language.
- Children develop healthy lifestyles and personal hygiene routines. They enjoy regular outdoor play and exercise. For example, children join in action songs, dance enthusiastically and bounce on the mini trampoline. Outside, they run, climb, balance and play ball games.
- Children develop some of the skills they need for starting school. They learn to manage tasks for themselves from a young age, including washing their hands and putting on their coats to develop their independence. Children learn positive

social skills and to be responsible and helpful to others.

- Staff develop effective working relationships with parents and external professionals. They provide close support and guidance for families, including how to access additional help and funding for their children. Parents share positive feedback regarding the care of their children. They state, for example, that their children are happy and enjoy attending. Parents appreciate the regular updates and communication from staff regarding their children.
- The provider follows effective recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. They have identified the need to build on their staff team to provide a consistently good quality of care. Staff value training and development to keep their knowledge up to date.
- Staff have a good understanding of their safeguarding roles and responsibilities. They are aware of the signs and symptoms that might indicate a child is at risk of harm. They understand the correct procedures to follow in the event of any concerns about a child or adult to safeguard their welfare.

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
improve the sufficiency and deployment of staff to meet all children's needs and to engage them more in learning	01/04/2025
improve the curriculum and use of activities to help all children benefit from the learning opportunities and to encourage their communication and language skills more effectively.	01/04/2025

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY292304
Local authority	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole
Inspection number	10389550
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Mitchell, Lynn
Registered person unique reference number	RP513572
Telephone number	07837 303294
Date of previous inspection	23 September 2022

Information about this early years setting

Little Angels Nursery registered in 2004. The setting operates from Hamworthy, in Dorset. It opens each weekday, from 8am to 3pm, during term time only. The setting offers government funded places. It employs five staff, three of whom hold appropriate qualifications at levels 3 to 5.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Bridget Copson

Inspection activities

- The provider joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about the curriculum and what they intend the children to learn.
- The inspector observed activities and the quality of staff's interactions with the children. She discussed the effectiveness of an activity with the provider.
- The inspector sampled documentation and discussed the provider's knowledge of the requirements of the early years foundation stage.
- The inspector took account of parents' views.

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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