

Inspection of Little Rays Daycare Ltd

Godalming Town Football Club, Wey Court, Godalming GU7 3JE

Inspection date: 18 March 2024

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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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

Safeguarding is not effective. The manager and staff do not have sufficient understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. Child protection procedures are not in line with local safeguarding partners and do not support staff to take prompt action to keep children safe, should the need arise. The deployment of staff does not ensure that children are consistently supervised well enough.

Weaknesses exist in the arrangements to support children's learning and development, particularly in the indoor environment. Although children are initially enthusiastic to join in with activities, they become bored and distracted. This is a result of weaknesses in the curriculum and poor organisation in the daily routine. At these times, staff struggle to regain children's attention. The staff talk louder and raise their voices to try to engage children. This adds to the noise levels. Children mimic staff by shouting, which creates a chaotic environment. As a result, children do not benefit from the intended learning and their behaviour deteriorates. This impacts on children's personal, social, and emotional development.

The arrangements to support children's learning are more successful in the outdoor environment. Children love being outdoors in the fresh air. They have a natural curiosity to explore and investigate.

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

- The provider does not ensure that the arrangements to promote children's safety and well-being are sufficiently robust. She does not monitor to ensure staff have the skills and knowledge they need. For example, they do not have a sufficiently secure understanding to be able to recognise when to take action to refer child protection concerns. In addition, poor staff deployment means that children are not always supervised well enough. For example, children eat their food and take part in activities where they can put food in their mouth, without direct supervision from staff. Children were also observed to ride around the garden on bikes with food in their mouths. This does not adequately protect children from the risk of choking. Furthermore, in the outdoor area, there are times when staff stand facing away from children who are playing behind them in areas where there are not secure boundaries.
- Sleeping arrangements for children are not effective. Staff do not provide appropriate designated quiet areas, where they can relax and rest. Children wander around looking for somewhere to sleep. Staff do not always notice when children are showing obvious signs that they are tired. For example, yawning and rubbing their eyes. This does not effectively meet children's needs.
- Although there is a key-person system in place, it is not consistently effective in ensuring that children receive the individual support that they need to form

settled and secure relationships. At times, interaction between the key person and key children is minimal. Insufficient consideration is given to supporting children on days when their key person is not scheduled to work. Staff taking on this role do not have the information they need to support children in their learning and development. However, all staff support children to follow basic hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before meals.

- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) have individual plans to support their learning and development. However, these are not well implemented and followed by all staff to ensure children receive the targeted support that they need. At times, children with tailored plans find the noisy environment challenging. This goes unnoticed by staff, and children are left unsupported.
- Managers and leaders do not have effective oversight of practice and the curriculum. The quality of education that children receive is not consistently good enough. Staff do not plan effectively to meet individual children's learning and development needs. Managers do not monitor effectively to ensure staff adapt activities to reflect the age and ability of all children taking part. For instance, they identify a learning intention for children of three years old to count to five. However, during circle time, children from two years upwards are expected to take part in an activity to count to 10 in English, and other languages. The youngest children are unable to engage, and the oldest children become distracted, as the activity goes on for too long. The weaknesses in the planning and implementation of activities limit children's ability to make the progress that they are capable of.
- Managers and staff value parents as partners in their children's learning. They offer a friendly greeting when parents arrive to drop off and collect their children. Parents feedback that their children love exploring the outdoor environment.

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 and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
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ensure that managers and staff have sufficient safeguarding knowledge and understand the correct process to enable them to respond to child protection concerns in line with local safeguarding partners	15/04/2024
ensure staff are effectively deployed at all times to enable the effective supervision of children	15/04/2024
ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for children to rest and sleep	15/04/2024
review and improve key-person arrangements to ensure that children's needs are consistently understood and met	17/05/2024
monitor more effectively to ensure that staff are consistent in meeting the needs of children with SEND	17/05/2024
devise and implement a suitably challenging curriculum that reflects the interests and learning needs of all children.	17/05/2024

Setting details

Unique reference number	2770413
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10325810
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	2 to 11
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	27
Name of registered person	Little Rays Daycare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2770412
Telephone number	07968067679
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Rays Daycare Ltd registered in 2023. It is located in Godalming, Surrey and operates from Monday to Friday, during term time. The pre-school is open from 9.30am to 2.30pm. The breakfast club is open from 8am to 9am and the after-school club is open from 3pm to 6pm. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are nine staff employed to work with the children, seven of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 and above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Kelley Ellis

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- A member of staff joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- 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 together.
- 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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