

Inspection of Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery East Sheen

169 Upper Richmond Road West, London SW14 8EB

Inspection date:

14 August 2024

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

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

The key staff are kind and caring and welcome children into the nursery. Children develop close bonds with them and enjoy attending.

Staff experienced several changes in management, and this affected their morale overall. Not all staff have high expectations of what individual children can achieve. As a result, children receive an inconsistent quality of teaching. This means that they are not making the progress they are capable of. Nevertheless, children enjoy a range of interesting activities. For example, they explore the texture of the jelly and learn to roll the play dough and cut out shapes. They have opportunities to make marks, and this supports their small muscles in preparation for early writing.

Staff teach children to respect and be kind to one another. Children learn to share and negotiate with their friends. Staff ensure children are active and regularly learn in the fresh air. Children enjoy balancing on beams and build on their physical skills.

The management team ensures the setting has appropriate arrangements in place to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Children are learning skills, including independence skills, that help them prepare for the next stage of learning.

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

- The new management team is skilled and passionate about providing high-quality care and education for all children. It has a targeted plan to work towards to drive improvements. For example, it is in the process of delivering support, training and supervision to staff to build a good-quality education. This has been inconsistent for months and has affected the staff's performance and the overall quality of education.
- Some staff in the baby room lack the skills to support the youngest children's communication and language development. Contrarily, there are some staff in the pre-school room who are skilled and build on children's communication and language skills well. For example, they expand on children's vocabulary and use words such as 'replant', explaining the meaning of it. Children enjoy nursery rhymes and share books with staff.
- Some staff use children's interests when planning for their learning. This helps children engage and focus during activities. However, this is inconsistent across the nursery. There are occasions when staff do not build on what children already know, and children wander around from one activity to another.
- The management team ensures that the setting is clean and that children learn about the importance of hygiene routines. Staff meet children's dietary requirements well. However, some staff who handle food have not completed

the food hygiene training. The management team has taken immediate action and arranged training for staff, to comply with this requirement.

- Staff interact with children warmly during care routines. For example, during sleep time, staff gently soothe young children to reassure them and help them to fall asleep. Staff in the pre-school room help children to understand their feelings and actions, including through conversations, activities and reading. This supports children's emotional well-being.
- Staff support children's independence. They encourage children to serve themselves at lunchtime and to have a go at using tools during activities. This helps children develop the confidence needed for the next stage in learning and the move to school when the time comes.
- The management team and staff ensure that the youngest children have opportunities to explore and learn through sensory play. They identify and support children's individual sensory needs well.
- Some skilled staff use opportunities as they arise during play to build on children's mathematical skills. For example, they encourage children to count in sequence during activities and support them to recognise some shapes.
- Children enjoy healthy and balanced meals and snacks throughout the day. They understand that this contributes to their good health.
- The management team and staff have enhanced communication with parents, and this helps to provide continuity in children's care and learning. They share daily feedback about children's care and learning activities. This helps to reassure parents and support children's learning at home.

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
plan and deliver a suitably challenging quality curriculum to support all children and help them make the best possible progress	14/11/2024
ensure that staff receive appropriate training to support young children's communication and language development	14/11/2024

provide consistent support and training tailored to individual staff's needs to enhance their quality of teaching	14/11/2024
ensure all staff who handle food receive food hygiene training.	14/09/2024

Setting details

Unique reference number	2778667
Local authority	Richmond Upon Thames
Inspection number	10358265
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	73
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Monkey Puzzle Day Nurseries (East Sheen) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2778668
Telephone number	020 8487 2836
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery East Sheen registered in 2024. The nursery is open each weekday, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 51 weeks of the year. It receives funding to provide early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs 13 members of staff. Of these, nine staff hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katarina Hustava

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.
- The manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector talked to staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The deputy manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity.
- The manager discussed a range of procedures and 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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