

Squiggles Day Care & Activity Club Ltd

21 Station Road, Hagley, STOURBRIDGE, West Midlands DY9 0NU



Inspection date	19 December 2018
Previous inspection date	19 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider does not meet the staff to child ratios to fully assure children's safety.
- The provider does not ensure that staff deploy themselves effectively to meet the needs of all children.
- The provider has failed to identify and address weaknesses in the provision that need swift action.
- Staff do not consistently promote children's listening and understanding skills to the highest possible level.

It has the following strengths

- Staff develop positive partnerships with parents. For example, they gain information from parents about their child's previous learning. They also help them to continue their child's learning at home. Staff have strong relationships with other providers, including the local schools. This helps to ensure continuity for all children's care and learning.
- The manager tracks the educational programme and monitors the learning and development of individual and groups of children effectively. This helps them to identify and close any gaps in children's learning quickly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
ensure that the correct staff-to-child ratios are met to promote children's safety effectively	07/01/2019
ensure staff are effectively deployed to meet the individual needs of all children and promote their welfare consistently.	07/01/2019

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- make better use of self-evaluation and monitoring to ensure areas for improvement are identified and acted upon swiftly
- reduce background noise to support children's listening and attention skills to promote their communication to the highest possible level.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out following Ofsted's risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the providers. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents during the inspection.

Inspector

Mary Henderson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The provider does not ensure the correct staff-to-child ratios. Staff do not deploy themselves effectively to ensure the safety and welfare of the children. For example, one member of staff is unable to care for the pre-school children during early morning arrivals as she manages the arrivals of parents at the main door. Instead, staff who are caring for the toddlers care for these children as well, however, there is already insufficient staff to meet the staff-to-child ratios for this age group. This compromises children's safety. The provider's self-evaluation includes the views of managers, staff, parents and children. However, the provider does not swiftly identify or address weaknesses in the day-to-day running of the nursery to meet the individual needs and safety of children. Staff attend child protection training and know who to talk to should they have a concern about a child in their care. They have regular meetings with the manager to discuss their key children, their planning and training needs and discuss their continued suitability.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff working with older children follow their lead and support their interests successfully. Older children use their imagination well as they take turns to talk about where the North Pole might be. They become excited and decide to make their own map to find Father Christmas. Staff provide tools and resources, including paper, pens and scissors. They use a range of effective questioning techniques to encourage children's thinking and problem-solving skills. Those staff working with toddlers encourage them to engage in sensory play. They ask toddlers which ingredients go into the bowl to make dough. Toddlers call these out with confidence and manipulate the mix until their dough is pliable. Staff caring for babies sing songs and rhymes with them. They manage babies' care needs well and check them regularly as they sleep. Babies show curiosity and remain focused as they smile and wiggle about on the floor, joining in the fun.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Significant weaknesses in leadership and management do not protect children's safety and welfare. Children are well-behaved and develop friendships with others around them. Staff provide children with healthy meals that meet their individual dietary requirements and parents' preferences. Children experience challenge in their play as they climb, balance and manoeuvre around obstacles on wheeled toys. They enjoy daily opportunities to play in the outdoors. This helps children to develop their understanding about a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

All children progress well from their starting points. They make informed choices about what they want to play with in the well-resourced play areas, inside and outside. Children develop strong emotional attachments. They learn about similarities and difference between themselves and others in the local and wider community. All children develop the key skills that will help them to be ready for the next phase in their learning, including their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429350
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10088247
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	103
Name of registered person	Squiggles Day Care & Activity Club Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP908969
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2015
Telephone number	01562887892

Squiggles Day Care & Activity Club registered in 2011. It operates from the ground and first floor of premises located in Hagley in Worcestershire. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds early years teacher status and one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5. A further five hold a level 3 and one holds a level 2 qualification. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery is in receipt of funding to provide early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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