

Holyrood Day Nursery, Media City

Unit 3 Central Park, 3 Ohio Avenue, SALFORD, M50 2GT



Inspection date

20 May 2015

Previous inspection date

13 March 2014

	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
The quality and standards of the early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The quality of teaching differs across the nursery because not all staff have the required skills to make the most of children's play activities.
- Some staff do not plan for the next steps in children's learning. Therefore, some activities are not always appropriate in meeting children's individual needs.
- Some children are not being tracked across all their required learning areas, so that staff are not aware of where extra support may be needed. The manager does not always have an accurate picture of children's progress, as these gaps have not been noted.
- Children who speak English as an additional language are not always encouraged to use their home language for learning, to enable them to access different learning opportunities.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and have secure relationships with their key person, which helps them to feel safe while they are at nursery.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. They are involved in decision making about how the nursery develops, as well as being encouraged to take part in their child's learning.
- The nursery provides children with a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities, which encourages their eagerness to learn.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- improve the consistency in the quality of teaching by observing individual staff performance regularly, identifying weaker areas of practice and offering coaching or training
- improve children's learning and development by making accurate observations and assessments of children across all the appropriate areas of their learning, and plan activities to support their individual progress
- improve the systems used to track the educational programmes to identify gaps in children's learning, so that progress is known and additional support can be given to those who need it.

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

- provide opportunities for children who speak English as an additional language to develop and use their home language during play and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities both indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children during the inspection, held a meeting with the manager, and also carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector discussed the evaluation of the nursery's practice.
- The inspector spoke with a number of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records, planning systems and a sample of other paperwork.

Inspector

Elizabeth Grocott

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Staff encourage children to join in some unusual activities. For example, children help to feed the nursery pigs, Percy and George and collect eggs from the hens. They learn to grow vegetables, such as spinach and potatoes, which helps them to develop an awareness of their natural environment. Children also have fun digging in mud and there are plenty of toys within easy reach, so children can make choices. This supports their independence. Staff seek help from other agencies for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They provide additional support, such as speech therapy. Not all staff are good at developing children's learning. For example, some staff sing rhymes too quickly, not giving children time to try to join in. At other times, staff expect them to learn things, such as shapes, that are too hard for their stage of development. They do not give enough opportunities for children to practise talking, including those children who speak English as an additional language. Staff observe children's play which helps them to assess their progress. However, not all staff plan activities based on what children can already do, and some staff do not assess children in all areas of their development. As a result, any weaknesses in parts of their development go unnoticed.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children feel secure; they play happily and explore the nursery with confidence. Staff use information from parents to help children to settle, which supports their emotional development. Parents speak highly of the nursery saying that their children get 'brilliant support' and that they 'feel very involved'. Babies are supported to feed themselves and pre-school children serve their own lunch. This helps to increase their confidence while preparing them for the next stage in learning. Children are kind to each other; they wait patiently as they take turns during games. They benefit from fresh air and exercise and have dance lessons with the teacher. This helps them understand the importance of physical health. Healthy meals and snacks also contribute to a healthy lifestyle. Accidents that occur are examined regularly so that care is taken to minimise any risks to children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

Children are kept safe because staff have an adequate understanding of safeguarding procedures. Regular training makes sure they are alert to possible signs that a child may be at risk. Staff and parents are encouraged to help the nursery improve by offering ideas and suggestions, promoting children's care and well-being. The manager has a positive attitude to continual development and staff support is offered through regular supervision. However, there are weaknesses in monitoring the educational programmes. Gaps in children's learning records go unnoticed and there is limited evidence to support the accuracy of the tracking. Most staff observe each other's practice in order to develop their skills. However, the manager has not focused on the weaknesses in teaching to support children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY436473
Local authority	Salford
Inspection number	1014704
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	134
Number of children on roll	163
Name of provider	Happitots Day Nurseries Limited
Date of previous inspection	13 March 2014
Telephone number	08007819726

Holyrood Day Nursery, Media City was registered in 2011 and is one of 19 settings owned and managed by the provider in England. The nursery operates from two open-plan rooms and there is a large enclosed area available for outdoor play. The nursery employs 25 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, and a further 5 staff hold early years qualifications at level 4 and 5. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7am until 7pm all year round. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently 163 children on roll who are in the early years age group. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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