

Ashford Family Nursery

Albert Road, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8NY



Inspection date

9 June 2015

Previous inspection date

29 March 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
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		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The manager has a very clear understanding of her responsibility to safeguard children. Staff are knowledgeable on how to act if they have child protection concerns and how to follow procedures to gain further support.
- Staff build good relationships with children and families. Staff make sure that they are aware of each child's needs and circumstances. Parents report that staff provide a good range of information about their children's development and that they make very good progress.
- Staff use their knowledge of children and observations to assess accurate starting points for children. They use this to plan activities that support children's development well. As a result, children make very good progress in their learning.
- Staff have secure emotional relationships with children. They support children to behave well as they help children understand expected boundaries and acceptable behaviours.
- Staff support children well as they develop their communication and language skills. Staff sign to children to aid their development and provide a range of experiences. For example, staff use pictures and visual clues to help children express themselves.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children have opportunities to develop their independence skills but staff do not use every experience to fully ensure children can try things for themselves.
- Staff do not always share their training experiences with others to help further extend the good practices of all staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure every opportunity is used to develop children's independence skills
- extend staff opportunities to share ideas and good practice following their training experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed play and interaction both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector and manager conducted a joint observation.
- The inspector sampled documents including children's learning journals, self-evaluation, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children where appropriate.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers, and considered their views.

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff provide a good level of teaching. They work well with other professionals to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff use their good knowledge and understanding to ensure children receive individual support and attention. Staff ensure they consider children's ages and abilities during group times. For example, they provide shorter and smaller groups for younger children. The older children enjoy a longer group time that helps develop their concentration and questioning skills. This helps them gain skills that prepare them for the move on to school. Children explore the garden that covers a good range of different learning experiences. They spend time in the book tent sharing and looking at books. Children enjoy exciting activities in the sand and water areas.

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

Children confidently take part in good physical activities daily, such as music and movement. This helps them understand about the benefits of physical exercise and healthy lifestyles. Staff help children learn about how to keep themselves safe through discussion and interesting activities. For example, staff teach children about road safety through stories using a favourite character. Staff help children to understand how to manage their own risks. For example, they guide children as they decide how to run up the slide safely. Children are excited and eager to take part in activities. For example, they go outside to check on the sunflowers that they planted. They enjoy filling up the watering cans to water their flowers. There is a high ratio of staff to children and the manager deploys them effectively. They work well together to support children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Staff have meetings to maintain good levels of communication. The manager supports staff practices with supervision when necessary. Staff work together as they reflect on their practice and help complete an accurate evaluation of the nursery. They set targets for improvement and follow up their developments. The manager and staff work together to monitor and review children's progress. They identify areas to develop and identify learning gaps. For example, they observed that children did not make as much progress as expected in mathematics. They reviewed their tracking system and concluded that children were developing well but it was not being noted effectively. Therefore, they reviewed their observations for this area. The manager closely monitors the nursery practices to ensure children receive good, consistent learning experiences. She encourages staff to go on training or improve their qualification level. This helps strengthen staff's knowledge and understanding of how to promote children's learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126979
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840593
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	44
Name of provider	Jane Doherty
Date of previous inspection	29 March 2010
Telephone number	01233 643404

Ashford Family Nursery registered in 1992 and is in Ashford, Kent. The nursery is open 46 weeks a year from 9am to 3pm each weekday. There is a breakfast club from 8.20am on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The nursery supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. There are seven members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff has a foundation degree, three staff have Level 3 qualifications and one member of staff has a Level 2 qualification. The nursery provides free funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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