

Alton College Nursery

Old Odiham Road, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 2LX



Inspection date

25 June 2015

Previous inspection date

5 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff provide highly stimulating activities for children in a colourful, bright and safe environment. Children are extremely motivated and eager to join in all activities.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of how children learn. They support and extend children's learning expertly, according to their individual interests and needs.
- Children feel safe and secure in the environment; they are confident to take risks appropriate to their age and ability.
- The key-person system is securely in place, but all staff are involved in observing and supporting the children. As a result, children share wonderful relationships with all staff.
- Staff have an excellent understanding of the process to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They value children's safety and use robust risk assessments to ensure this is maintained.
- Staff value professional development highly and go on many relevant courses. They share all information gained and children's progress benefits from staff's up-to-date knowledge.
- Management has a highly effective self-evaluation system; they take into account the views of parents, children and staff. These are used to inform and implement the necessary changes and improvements.
- Although all areas of learning are expertly promoted throughout the day, there are fewer opportunities for children to explore and increase their skills in technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to explore and further increase their skills in using technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the manager and other staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector engaged with the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's indoor and outdoor play, as well as their snack, lunch and hygiene routines.
- The inspector engaged in a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled various relevant documents; including the nursery's risk assessments, a range of policies and procedures, staff recruitment records and children's learning journeys.

Inspector

Lauren Ferreira

Inspection findings

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

Staff question children expertly throughout the day to extend their learning effectively. As a result, children are able to think of different answers and are confident to share them with others. All staff support children exceptionally well by not doing things for them, but rather by encouraging them to do things independently. They provide expert support by explaining how to do things and by praising and encouraging the children. As a result, children are very independent and develop extremely well. Staff monitor children's development accurately and precisely. They are able to identify any issues quickly and effectively provide the relevant support needed. Staff provide excellent support for children who are moving to school. They talk to the children about the move and liaise with staff at the other settings. There is a highly stimulating environment, both indoors and out, and children have the freedom to choose where they want to be. Children are actively involved in creating displays. As a result, they are motivated to achieve and are proud of their results.

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

Staff provide excellent support for children with additional needs. They work in highly effective partnerships with other professionals to provide continuity of learning and care. As a result, all children make excellent progress. Staff also share close relationships with parents who are very involved in their children's learning. Staff promote and encourage healthy lifestyles consistently. Children understand the importance of eating healthy food and drinking water regularly. Children are highly aware of protecting themselves from the sun and they know to wear sun hats outdoors. Staff have an impressive back-up plan relating to the key-person system. Each child has two key persons to account for any member of staff not being available. Staff are excellent role models; they constantly promote good manners and behaviour. As a result, children are exceptionally well behaved and display good manners.

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

Staff feel valued and appreciated and are comfortable to share their feelings, views and needs. They undergo annual appraisals and suitability declarations. Recruitment procedures are robust. As a result, management consistently maintains staff suitability and performance, and staff are highly competent. Leadership is of exceptional quality. The manager has a strong drive to achieve and to provide the best environment and learning experiences for the children by monitoring rigorously the progress that they make. All staff are actively involved in keeping all relevant documents up to date, such as reviewing the policies, procedures and risk assessments. As a result, staff have a clear understanding of how to ensure children's safety.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110007
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	824923
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	53
Name of provider	Alton College
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2011
Telephone number	01420 86794 or 01420 592200

Alton College Nursery registered in 2009. The nursery is situated in a purpose-built building in the grounds of Alton College, Alton, Hampshire. The nursery is open from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday, term time only. There are six members of staff, all of whom hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and above. The deputy manager has Early Years Professional Status. The nursery receives funding for children aged two, three and four.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

