

Abbeyfields Day Nursery

32 Whitstable Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8DL



Inspection date

22 July 2015

Previous inspection date

30 July 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:

- Parents and carers are not yet fully involved in their children's learning and development.
- Although staff have made many improvements since the last inspection, some of these are still in the early stages. Therefore, it is too early to see the positive impact of some of this work.
- Procedures to ensure practice within the nursery is always good or better are just beginning.

It has the following strengths

- Children are very happy at the nursery and form positive relationships with the staff who look after them each day.
- The nursery is clean and very well-maintained. There are a good range of resources available which offer children plenty of choice in their play and learning.
- Good attention is paid towards keeping children safe.
- Staff are highly committed and dedicated to making improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the systems for engaging parents and carers in their children's development by 1) helping them to share what they know about children, particularly when children first start at the nursery, and 2) helping them understand how they can support children's learning at home.

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

- improve the way information about children's learning is shared with parents and carers so that it is meaningful and clearly shows children's levels of progress
- develop the systems for self-evaluation to help all staff review their practice and further improve the quality of teaching and support for children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the support for children's learning, both inside the nursery and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff about how they plan for each child's learning needs and monitor the progress all children make.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- A meeting was held with the nursery manager to discuss how improvements are made within the nursery and the support for staff training.
- The inspector talked to staff about how they keep children safe and how they work with parents and carers to include them in supporting children's learning.

Inspector

Jo Caswell HMI

Inspection findings

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

Staff generally support children's learning well. They understand what children like to do and what interests them, and ask some effective questions which encourage children to think creatively. For example, while children played in the mud outside, they found a spider. Staff used this spontaneous opportunity well to talk to children about spiders. Children develop a keen interest in learning as staff play alongside them and build on children's interests. For example, staff plan a range of creative activities based on favourite stories. Although there are systems in place to check that all children are making progress in their learning, these are still in the early stages. Some records lack detail. For example, even though staff try to engage parents in their child's learning, some parents do not always complete relevant information and share their own knowledge of what children like to do.

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

Good attention is paid towards keeping children safe. Staff have an accurate understanding of their responsibilities in protecting children and know what to do if they have any concerns. Good opportunities are in place for children to develop their confidence and independence. Staff allow children time to do things safely by themselves and constantly remind children about how to play safely. Children play well together and form good relationships with the other children. They behave well and are keen to learn. Staff enable children to develop a good range of skills which help them in their learning, such as being able to listen, follow instructions and be confident to ask questions and find out how things work. Consequently, children are prepared well for starting school.

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

Since the last inspection, the nursery owner and management team have worked hard to make improvements. It is clear there has been a focus on improving the quality of teaching and the local authority has provided appropriate support with this. Although this has resulted in improved teaching, there are still weaknesses in the monitoring of children's progress. Assessment records lack precise information and parents are not yet fully involved in the process. The information for parents about children's progress is not clear for them to understand. Staff training needs are now prioritised and both the nursery manager and deputy manager are engaged in management training. This is helping to make improvements which staff can build on. Systems to monitor the quality of teaching are beginning and meetings to discuss staff practice have started. Although the management team can accurately identify what further improvements are needed in the nursery, systems to formally review practice and ensure the nursery standards are consistently good or better are not yet fully in place. Partnerships with other early years settings children attend and local schools are developing well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126949
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1006076
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	Abbeyfields Day Nursery Limited
Date of previous inspection	30 July 2014
Telephone number	01795 591088

Abbeyfields Day Nursery registered in 1985 and is privately owned. It operates from a converted house in Faversham, Kent. Children have access to three playrooms, including a single-storey baby unit in the rear garden area. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am until 6.30pm, all year round. It is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. There are currently eight children in the early years age range on roll. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. A team of three staff work with the children. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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