

Northleigh Ascension Nursery

Ascension Church Hall, Somers Park Avenue, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 1XA



Inspection date	27 November 2015
Previous inspection date	18 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide children with interesting and stimulating activities that match their individual learning needs. This promotes children's good progress in all areas of learning.
- Staff are kind, caring and friendly. Children develop strong emotional attachments with staff, which helps them to settle quickly into the nursery.
- Children feel positive about their own achievements. Staff praise children for their efforts. Disabled children and those with special educational needs make good progress because staff are sensitive to their needs.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents speak highly of the staff. They are happy with the service provided and express how well they are kept informed of their children's progress.
- Staff have strong relationships with other professionals and local schools. Important information is shared effectively, promoting continuity of care and learning for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff monitor individual children's progress well. However, the arrangements for checking the learning outcomes of different groups of children are less successful.
- Children are not as independent as possible in expressing their preferences and making choices in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharpen the focus on monitoring the progress made by different groups of children and check that any gaps in learning are closing quickly
- enhance opportunities for children to express their own interests and to be able to make more choices in their play.

Inspection activities

- 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. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Improvements have been made since the last inspection. All staff are trained on safeguarding policies and procedures. They understand the importance of reporting concerns promptly and are aware of the procedures to follow should they need to. Staff are knowledgeable and understand how to recognise the possible signs of abuse and neglect. This helps to protect children from harm. Most staff are qualified. They keep up to date with changes and maintain their professional development through attendance on training courses. This has a positive impact on the quality of teaching and on children's progress in their learning. The manager and staff reflect well on the service they provide. They seek and act on the opinions of parents and other professionals. This shared approach enables the enthusiastic team to continually improve the nursery to enhance children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete initial assessments of children's starting points when children first attend the nursery. They take into account parents' contributions, which are used effectively to plan an individual curriculum from the very start. Staff make regular and accurate observations and assessments of children's learning and development. They use them well to plan for children's individual next steps in learning. These are shared with parents on a regular basis, along with ideas about how they can continue their children's learning at home. Children's communication skills develop well as they describe what they are doing and talk about their experiences. Staff support children to join in with conversations and learn to listen to others. During play and daily routines, staff skilfully introduce opportunities to promote children's mathematical development. They encourage children to estimate quantities when making pretend soup in the mud kitchen. Children are praised for their efforts which encourages them to stay motivated in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a welcoming and stimulating environment which children respond well to. Staff are particularly skilled at welcoming new children to the group. This helps them to feel emotionally secure and they quickly settle and get involved with their play. Children are encouraged to become independent and take care of their personal needs. They confidently put on their outdoor clothing before going outside to play. Children's physical development is supported well. They have plenty of opportunities spend time outdoors in the fresh air. Children make regular use of the two garden areas where they can run, balance and learn to negotiate space. Children behave well and learn to share and take turns. Staff act as good role models and praise children for their achievements. This helps to raise children's confidence and self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who are in receipt of funding for early education, make good progress from their starting points. Children are developing the necessary skills to support them in their future learning, including moving on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	205292
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	1016073
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	20
Name of provider	Northleigh Ascension Nursery Committee
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2015
Telephone number	07786410004

Northleigh Ascension Nursery was registered in 1992. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 8.50am until 3.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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