

Ashcroft & Ramridge Community Nursery

186 Ashcroft Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU2 9AB



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16 February 2016

23 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Partnerships with parents are exemplary. Staff offer training sessions and individual support, helping parents understand how children learn. They provide resources and ideas for activities, enabling parents to support their children's learning.
- Children enjoy a wonderful variety of exciting activities. These are meaningful as they are soundly informed by children's interests and so bring learning to life. Children are animated and eager to learn. They are exceptionally well prepared for school.
- Staff have a sensitive and comprehensive understanding of children's needs and their learning styles. They exactly tailor their excellent teaching techniques to suit each child. Children make excellent progress in this exceptionally nurturing environment.
- Exemplary monitoring procedures enable staff to act immediately to address weaker areas of learning. The introduction of an innovative support programme means that children's literacy skills are significantly improving.
- Staff truly value each child as a unique individual, showing immense care and respect for all. This promotes children's self-esteem and they take an active role in daily life at the nursery, competently participating in decision making. Children learn to value others and understand how to play a full part in their community and wider society.
- All staff use their qualifications exceptionally well to offer children the very best care. Staff make excellent use of any new knowledge from training. Their increased use of simple signing supports children's early communication skills.
- Children participate in numerous activities that support their physical development and their understanding of how to keep themselves healthy. They learn about oral hygiene as they pretend to go to the dentist and learn how to clean their teeth.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- exploit the opportunities for younger children to gain an even greater understanding of the uses of information and communication technology.

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 manager and held meetings with the manager and the nominated person.
- The inspector talked with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views. She also viewed written feedback from parents.

Inspector

Kelly Eyre

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff and managers work exceptionally well together and set high standards. Staff receive frequent and practical supervision. Their exceptionally comprehensive self-evaluation enables staff to accurately identify areas to improve even further. They have recognised the possibility of offering younger children extended opportunities to explore information and communication technology. Excellent procedures to share information with other childcare providers mean that children move seamlessly between settings. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Any concerns are reported efficiently and managers are fully aware of their duty to inform Ofsted of any significant events. Children's safety is exceptionally well considered at all times and there are very robust procedures to protect children at arrival and departure times. The manager's comprehensive knowledge of each child means that she fully understands their needs and makes exceptionally well-informed decisions about spending additional funding to support their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff skilfully plan and extend activities. For example, children study the weather and discuss appropriate clothing. They then participate in races to put on winter or summer clothes, quickly working out that it takes less time to put on the fewer summer clothes. Enhanced planning means that children now enjoy numerous opportunities that support them in counting. They use a construction set to make dens for superhero figures, eagerly counting the bricks and describing whether the figures are behind or inside the dens. Knowledgeable staff support children in obtaining the very best learning experience from exciting activities. Children develop their creativity as they make space ships and walk on sheets of foil to pretend they are walking in space. They learn to use books for a range of purposes as they research planets and act out a favourite space story. Staff's excellent interaction supports children in exploring further. Staff and children eagerly explore paint colours, and children delight in mixing these on their hands and arms. They spread the colours across paper and eagerly name the shapes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Exemplary partnerships with parents and an excellent key-person system enable staff to gather comprehensive information. They use this to support children to settle and to plan how best to promote their learning. Skilled staff support each child so that they enjoy familiar activities and respond positively to new experiences and challenges. Children gain an excellent understanding of how they are learning. They review past activities, discussing the methods and resources used and how they can adapt these in other situations. These thoughtful procedures strengthen children's confidence and emotional stability, building an exceptionally secure base upon which to develop their learning.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including disabled children and those with special educational needs, and those who speak English as an additional language, make exceptional progress in relation to their starting points. Sensitive, knowledgeable staff support children so that they rapidly develop the skills that underpin their learning and prepare them for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY278843
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	848642
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	96
Name of provider	Ashcroft & Ramridge Tenants And Residents Limited
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2012
Telephone number	01582 402 812

Ashcroft and Ramridge Community Nursery was registered in 2004. The setting employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2, and 15 hold level 3 or above, including one with Early Years Professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 48 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It has strong links with the school and children's centre on the same site.

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