

Ashfield Plaza Day Nursery

Sutton Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, NOTTINGHAM, NG17 8HP



Inspection date

2 March 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The nursery places a high value on the continuous professional development of all its staff. This contributes to the high quality of teaching and the imaginative environments in which learning takes place.
- Staff are highly motivated and the nursery manager leads with vision and ambition. The setting strives for excellence at all times and promotes the best possible outcomes for children in all areas of their learning and development.
- Sharply focused self-evaluation with children's voices at its heart, means that there is continuous improvement in the high-quality provision.
- Parents are extremely keen to share their opinions of the setting and talk very highly of the quality of their children's care and learning. They describe the excellent progress their children have made since starting at the nursery. Parents are actively involved in supporting their child's development within the nursery and at home.
- Children's welfare and happiness are given the utmost priority. When children move to or within the nursery it is managed extremely sensitively and carefully. Children quickly feel at home and that they are part of the nursery family. Staff are extremely caring and highly responsive to children's individual needs.
- Staff assess meticulously and plan accurately for children's individual learning needs. They quickly identify any gaps in children's learning and focus on providing extra support for children who need it, so that they can promptly catch up with their peers.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the strategies use to compare the progress made by different groups of children, in order to help maintain the excellent progress made throughout the nursery.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager.
- 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.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Josie Mapes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and her team have an excellent understanding of how to protect children from harm. The manager leads extremely effectively. She has built a highly motivated staff team and supports them with an effective and targeted programme of training. Staff are confident in their own abilities and talk about how they use ideas from their recent training to enhance and improve their good practice. The nursery boasts a positive and hardworking culture, where everybody has an equally important role to play. This helps to drive excellence throughout the setting. Staff new to the nursery and students on placements from the school are assigned a mentor. This helps them to quickly feel that they are a valuable member of the team. The manager is exploring further ways to strengthen the analysis of the achievements of different groups of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children flourish and make rapid progress in their learning, considering their starting points. Staff provide an exceptional range of high-quality learning experiences for children, both indoors and outdoors. During play, staff demonstrate their excellent teaching skills through modelling, showing and explaining. Observations and assessments of children's learning are precise and enable staff to specifically target their high-quality teaching. There is an extremely sharp focus on helping children to develop their communication and language skills. Staff skilfully encourage and reinforce children's language development, asking questions and allowing time for them to think before they respond. Additionally, the nursery offers regular language clinics for parents to seek advice if they have concerns about their child's language development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff work extremely hard to engage parents in supporting positive behaviour at home. For example, they have recently pioneered a specialist, small-group session where parents, key workers and children work together on building positive behaviour strategies. Children's welfare is central to everything staff do. They use highly effective strategies to promote children's independence, confidence and self-esteem. Photos of children's families are given pride of place in each of the rooms. Children's awareness of healthy lifestyles is very well supported as they enjoy a range of healthy snacks and play outside. Staff organise fun activities, such as a mini Olympic Games, making the most of the school sports grounds to enhance children's health and well-being.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress from their individual starting points. They leave the nursery extremely well prepared for the next step in their education, such as school. Babies are provided with plenty of space to practise their physical skills. Older children have tremendous fun taking part in a barefoot sensory walk. Toddlers enthusiastically explore with scented play dough, confidently describing it as 'stinky' and 'cold'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY476563
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	976089
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	69
Name of provider	Ashfield School
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01623 455003

Ashfield Plaza Day Nursery was registered in 2014. The nursery employs 14 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications, including four at level 4, and six at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm for 51 weeks a year. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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