

Alverton Day Nursery Ltd

Toltuff Crescent, Penzance, Cornwall, TR18 4QD



Inspection date

23 May 2016

Previous inspection date

17 January 2013

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has had a limited response to their attempts to involve and engage parents in children's learning, which was a previous recommendation. Partnerships with parents do not fully support children to make the best possible progress.
- Staff do not always provide enough challenge to children's learning due to inconsistencies in the quality of teaching. They do not always support children's communication and language development effectively.
- Self-evaluation identifies some areas for improvement, with appropriate action plans to target weaknesses. However, these are not rigorous enough to have a positive and consistent effect on teaching and learning.
- Staff discuss general information about children's well-being with other providers who share the care of children. However, the arrangements do not fully cover children's learning and development, to increase support and enable them to make further progress.

It has the following strengths

- Staff work in partnership with other agencies to provide further assessment and support to individual children. They have positive relationships with schools, which benefit children as they prepare to move there.
- Staff are kind towards children and tend to their individual needs well. They effectively help children to settle and feel secure in the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ develop innovative activities to improve partnerships with parents and successfully engage them in their children's learning and development	22/07/2016
■ develop staff skills and interactions with children, to provide consistently effective teaching support for communication and language development.	22/07/2016

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

- develop the self-evaluation procedures further and take rigorous action to address weaknesses and improve the outcomes for children
- improve communication systems with other providers who share the care of children, to increase support for children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager, director, staff and parents.
- The inspector undertook two joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector observed the staff and children in their indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's development records and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector checked the safeguarding arrangements and safety of the premises.

Inspector
Julie Wright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The manager and staff work together to evaluate children's progress and identify areas of learning that need further development. They have taken some positive action, such as increasing the opportunities for children to learn about information, communication and technology. The manager seeks parents' views and has discussions with them to address any queries and comments. Staff attend training courses, although do not always use their knowledge and skills well enough to extend support for children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff demonstrate secure knowledge of the child protection procedures, which enables them to safeguard children's welfare. Relevant procedures are in place to check that persons working with children are suitable.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff provide a suitable range of activities to help children learn and develop. However, they sometimes miss opportunities to promote language development by using a variety of strategies to enhance children's communication skills. Staff note children's next steps and discuss these with parents. They display and suggest some activities to parents to help support children's learning at home. However, their ideas do not actively inspire parental involvement. Older children move around and play with confidence, as they make independent choices. For example, they play on their computer or choose to write their names in the shaving foam. Children play matching and sorting games, which helps their mathematical understanding. Younger children enjoy sensory play opportunities, although not all activities extend their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children follow and understand the consistent routines, which supports their personal and social development. For example, younger children readily line up when asked and they enjoy sociable mealtimes. Staff are aware of children's individual dietary requirements, which they meet well to protect health. Children show pleasure as staff praise and encourage them during activities, which develops their self-esteem. Staff are conscientious in their supervision of sleeping babies, making frequent checks to keep them safe.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children form warm relationships with one another and with staff, and enjoy their time in the nursery. They develop confidence and, overall, make reasonable progress from their starting points. Children take part in group activities, which helps them develop some of the skills they need for future learning. However, these do not always provide enough challenge to help children make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY332397
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	1028088
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	38
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Alverton Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP526178
Date of previous inspection	17 January 2013
Telephone number	01736 351135

Alverton Day Nursery registered in 2006 under a new management structure, after first opening in 2004. It is a limited company with a board of directors. The nursery operates from its own premises in the grounds of Alverton School in Penzance, Cornwall. It is open from 8am until 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. There are 10 staff employed to work with the children, nine of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. One member of staff has a qualification at level 5. The nursery receives early education funding to provide free places for children aged two, three and four years.

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