

Alison's Childcare And Early Education (ACE) Ltd

Unit A1, Robian Way, SWADLINCOTE, Derbyshire, DE11 9DH



Inspection date

16 September 2016

Previous inspection date

12 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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:

- Staff do not promote or build on children's communication and language skills effectively to help them develop their speaking, understanding and listening skills.
- Staff do not use the observations of children's achievements effectively to help identify the next steps in their learning. They do not consistently plan challenging activities based on what children need to learn next to help them make good progress.
- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to help develop children's understanding of numbers, shapes and sizes during activities.
- Self-evaluation is not fully effective to help identify and tackle weaknesses in the quality of teaching or assessment procedures.

It has the following strengths

- The key-person system is effective. Children are confident and happy. They have strong attachments with the staff and demonstrate that they feel comfortable and secure in their care.
- Staff manage behaviour in a positive way and children respond well. They provide children with appropriate messages to help them learn how to manage their behaviour and play together well. Children are cooperative and readily participate in activities.
- Staff have established positive partnerships with parents. They work well in partnership with other professionals to help support children's individual needs and development. They make sure that parents are kept well informed about, and involved in, their children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ build on children's communication and language skills in order to improve their speaking, understanding and listening skills	30/12/2016
■ develop the observations and assessment of children, so that all staff regularly observe children's learning and development and use the information they gather to set challenging next steps in learning that ensure all children make the best possible progress.	30/12/2016

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

- provide more opportunities to help develop children's understanding of numbers, shapes and sizes, in order to help increase their mathematical skills
- improve self-evaluation and focus specifically on raising the quality of teaching and the assessment procedure to a consistently good level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection. She held discussions with the manager and the deputy manager.
- The inspector observed the interaction between the staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the staff. She sampled some of the nursery's policies and procedures, including the manager's self-evaluation documentation.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The manager is not consistently successful in identifying weaknesses in the quality of teaching and assessment procedures. However, she and her team have made significant changes to improve the quality of the provision for children. Overall, the manager has taken appropriate steps to address actions and recommendations from the last inspection, working closely with support agencies. For example, the premises are now safe for the children and risk assessments minimise any potential hazards. The manager monitors staff performance and provides support for staff. She promotes staff's professional development and encourages them to attend training. Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have a secure understanding of child protection issues and safeguarding procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff do not make best use of their assessments. They do not know what children need to learn next. Overall, teaching is suitable. However, staff do not use their knowledge to promote children's communication and language skills effectively. For example, they do not talk to children enough about what they are doing, to help promote children's speaking skills. Staff interact with the children in positive ways. Children have opportunities to take part in focused activities that promote mathematics. They sort objects by colour and size. However, staff do not model counting, numbers or measurement in the play activities, to help build on children's mathematical skills. Staff promote children's creative development well. Children thoroughly enjoy making music using instruments and express themselves as they sing and dance. Younger children use the toy train track effectively and demonstrate how they handle toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children enjoy a range of experiences and opportunities. However, weaknesses in teaching mean that children are not making good progress in their communication and language skills. Children demonstrate they are comfortable in their surroundings and access the toys they wish to play with. They learn to use their personal skills well. For example, children know to wash their hands before snack and lunch and put their own coats on to go outside. Children benefit from healthy foods and regular exercise. Staff teach children how to play safely. The manager has made links with local schools, which helps with children's move to school or playschool. Children are provided with opportunities to learn about the local community, in order to help them develop an understanding of other people and families

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are not making good enough progress in all areas of their learning. Although they develop some skills for future learning, they are not challenged sufficiently in their communication and language development. However, children are becoming increasingly independent and developing their care needs. They enjoy creative activities and demonstrate appropriate physical skills, such as climbing and balancing, as they play on the larger equipment outside.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493193
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1052398
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	1 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Alison's Childcare And Early Education (ACE) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901774
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2016
Telephone number	01283215342

Alison's Childcare And Early Education (ACE) Ltd was registered in 2016. The nursery opens on Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm and all year round, except for a week between Christmas and New Year, and bank holidays. There are seven members of staff. Of these, five members of staff hold an early years qualification at level 2 or 3. The manager has a Foundation Degree in Early Years and Childcare and one member of staff is unqualified. The pre-school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years.

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