

Ashford Play Nursery

43 Albert Road, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8NU



Inspection date	27 October 2016
Previous inspection date	18 December 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff build good relationships with parents. For example, they speak to them regularly to keep them up to date about children's development and offer suggestions to help them support their children at home. Parents share their suggestions, comments and views regarding their children's learning and development.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they particularly enjoy the opportunity to explore a range of activities outside, such as three-wheeled toys and scooters.
- Staff are warm and welcoming. Children are settled, happy and enjoy their time at the nursery. For example, they giggle with delight when staff playfully suggest ideas to them about the people they have drawn.
- All children make good progress in their learning and development from their individual starting points. Staff track children's learning well and have a good understanding of how to plan to help them to make further progress.
- Children who have special educational needs achieve well. For example, staff have links with professionals, such as speech and language therapists, which helps them to seek advice and guidance to ensure that children make consistent progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not organise some daily routines effectively, particularly for the younger children to fully engage and support them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the organisation of some daily routines, particularly for the younger children to fully engage and support them.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the supervisor.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching inside and outside and assessed the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the supervisor and manager.
- The inspector looked at documentation such as attendance records, staff suitability checks, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an up-to-date knowledge and understanding regarding matters that affect children's welfare. They know what to do and who to contact if they have concerns. The management team reviews the overall progress of children well. For example, it looks at different groups of children to help ensure that they continue to make good progress and identifies any additional help that they need. Staff receive effective support to develop their skills. For example, they have one-to-one meetings and share good practice ideas with each other. The management team and staff reflect on their good practice well and identify areas for improvement. For instance, they have successfully developed their settling-in process to ensure that it meets the needs of all children during this time.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's communication and language skills effectively. For instance, they engage children in good conversations and help them to learn new words. Children who are learning English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs are supported particularly well. Staff are knowledgeable about how to offer further support and have good relationships with other professionals. Children receive good support to use their imaginative skills in role play and build on their knowledge. For example, staff help them to understand the role of a doctor and what they do to help people. Children develop a good understanding of the natural world. For instance, they collect leaves with staff and learn why they change colour.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy a good range of resources inside and outside. They receive good support to develop their understanding of keeping safe. For example, staff help them to consider where to safely play active games. Staff help to develop children's knowledge and understanding of healthy lifestyles and good hygiene practices. For instance, they talk about the effects of healthy foods and the importance of washing their hands. Children behave well. They learn to take turns during games. For example, children talk to staff about whose turn it is and they know the rules of the setting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in all areas of learning. They are confident and happily make the choice of which area of the nursery to play in. Children have good mathematical language and understanding. For example, they explain that they would like to build a 'big' and 'tall' tower and comment how many bricks they need. Children have positive attitudes to learning and develop essential skills to support them to be ready to move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126981
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1061314
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	2 - 5
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	59
Name of registered person	Valerie Webb
Registered person unique reference number	RP512472
Date of previous inspection	18 December 2013
Telephone number	01233 625301

Ashford Play Nursery opened in 1971 and registered in 2001. It is one of a chain of three privately owned nurseries. The nursery opens weekdays from 8am to 5.30pm for 51 weeks a year. There are nine members of staff, eight of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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