

North Weald Pre School and Day Nursery

Rayley Lane, Epping, Essex, CM16 6AR



Inspection date	5 January 2017
Previous inspection date	1 March 2016

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The manager and the senior staff team have taken positive steps to address the actions raised at the last inspection. Staff training is now well embedded. Observations of staff practice and one-to-one meetings to discuss training needs are routinely carried out.
- Staff know children's interests very well. They use this knowledge along with their observations and assessments to plan fun activities. Good quality teaching helps to promote children's language and problem-solving skills.
- Children behave well and staff are good role models for children. For example, they help children to understand how to take turns, share and be kind and respectful to others. Staff give clear explanations about expected boundaries to keep themselves safe.
- Parents speak positively about the nursery. They say that they receive regular updates about their children's care, welfare and development.
- There are effective procedures in place to evaluate the quality of the provision. The manager and her staff have identified further areas to develop so that the nursery continually improves.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The continuous professional development for staff is not focused sharply enough on helping to enhance the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- At times, staff do not provide children with sufficient time to build on what they know and can do, in order to extend their thinking skills and learning even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the support given to staff to help guide them to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- provide more opportunities for children to extend their thinking skills and learning even further.

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 spoke to the manager, the training and development manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a planned activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the development and training manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the safeguarding policy and children's records. The inspector also looked at evidence of the suitability of staff and their qualifications.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and carers and took account of their views.

Inspector

Maura Pigram

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Since the last inspection, many improvements have been made across the nursery. Staff are now secure in their knowledge about how to effectively observe and assess children's progress. They check children's progress and share this regularly with parents. The manager and her team are committed to improving the quality of staff knowledge and practice to the benefit for all children who attend. For example, well-qualified staff support those who are less experienced to help them to increase their skills. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to report any concerns they may have. They keep up to date with changes in safeguarding legislation. Robust recruitment procedures are in place to help ensure that staff are suitable to work with children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good knowledge of individual children and provide them with a broad range of activities. For example, all children enjoy exploring in the garden. Older toddlers learn how to effectively use the magnifying glasses to see the pretend mini-beasts more clearly. Purposeful discussions take place and some children confidently use pens to mark what they have seen on the related laminated pictorial document provided. This is one example of how staff support children's early writing skills and their language development. Older children, have fun discovering the contents of a magic box. Good teaching takes place to introduce new words and reinforce children's understanding about letter sounds. Babies and younger toddlers enjoy a range of sensory play, such as playing with foam and choosing items from a song bag to sing favourite songs and rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are attentive to children's needs. They recognise when children are tired or need reassuring. Children are supported to develop good levels of personal independence skills. For example, they confidently serve themselves at mealtimes and independently pour their own drinks. Toddlers are encouraged to use a spoon to feed themselves. Staff working with babies use effective communication methods to help them feel settled and secure. All children benefit from outdoor play and exercise, which helps to support their physical skills well. For example, they dig in the garden, ride wheeled toys and enjoy drawing on the large black boards. Babies have fun discovering how to use interactive toys. Furniture is arranged effectively so that they can practise new skills, such as walking and standing.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in their learning and they develop the skills that prepare them well for school. For example, they are competent communicators who confidently respond to questions posed during activities, such as story sessions. They have good independence skills and are motivated to learn. Many older children write their own names and recognise their friend's names. Children draw and paint, and use a range of tools to make craft items. They take part in baking activities to help support their mathematical understanding.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY484442
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1042187
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 - 12
Total number of places	93
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	AllGold Investments Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900831
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2016
Telephone number	01992 522400

North Weald Pre School and Day Nursery was registered in 2015 and was acquired by Asquith Nurseries Limited in February 2016. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. One member of staff holds early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm and include after-school care.

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