

Ashington Minors

Back Sycamore Street, ASHINGTON, Northumberland, NE63 0AH



Inspection date

25 April 2017

Previous inspection date

18 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Inadequate	4
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Inadequate	4

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Leaders do not display a good understanding of how to respond to safeguarding concerns with external agencies in an appropriate and timely manner.
- Leaders do not use self-evaluation procedures effectively to swiftly raise the quality of the provision. In addition, leaders do not provide sufficient supervision sessions, training and support to help staff improve their practice.
- Leaders do not ensure that all children are assigned a key person. This does not provide a consistent approach to promote children's emotional well-being.
- Leaders have not established good links with schools and other early years providers. They do not share information with settings where children attend to provide a consistency of care.
- Leaders have not implemented systems to monitor children's progress and to identify specific gaps in learning. They do not use additional funding effectively. This means that children do not fully benefit from targeted support to help them make the best possible progress.

It has the following strengths

- Children behave well. They demonstrate good social skills and invite others into their play. Staff provide children with a range of suitable activities to choose from.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ develop knowledge of safeguarding and ensure that all leaders and staff are aware of the appropriate procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child	08/05/2017
■ implement supervision sessions to offer support and guidance to staff and identify any training needs, in order to raise the quality of practice	08/05/2017
■ ensure every child is allocated a key person to meet their individual needs and help develop their emotional well-being	08/05/2017
■ ensure leaders implement effective monitoring systems and make better use of additional funding to provide a more targeted approach for children.	08/05/2017

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

- develop existing self-evaluation procedures to accurately identify weaknesses and raise the quality of the provision to a good level
- develop partnerships with schools and other early years providers where children attend to provide a consistent approach to children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a tour of the premises.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Emma Allison

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Leaders do not demonstrate an awareness of how to appropriately follow up concerns about a child's safety and well-being with the relevant agencies. Leaders have implemented self-evaluation procedures. However, these are not yet effective in identifying weaknesses and raising the quality of the provision. Staff are well qualified. However, supervision sessions are not well embedded to provide support and guidance for staff. Furthermore, training needs are not swiftly identified to help raise the quality of practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

Leaders have not implemented systems to monitor children's progress and to identify any gaps in their learning. Furthermore, they have not developed effective partnerships with other early years providers where children attend to provide a continued approach to children's learning needs. Parents speak highly of the friendly staff team. Staff complete observations of children's learning and share this information with parents. They collect information from parents about what their children already know and can do. Where teaching is better, children benefit from sensory activities. They mix together cornflour and water and feel the different textures. Staff play alongside children and introduce descriptive words. This helps children to develop their language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Due to failings in leadership, children are not adequately safeguarded. Furthermore, leaders have not implemented an effective key-person system. They have not ensured that all children are cared for by a specific adult who is responsible for meeting their individual needs. Staff promote suitable hygiene practices. Children are encouraged to wash their hands before mealtimes and after using the bathroom. Staff provide children with healthy and nutritious meals. They provide opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. For instance, children join in with large-group activities. They move their bodies in various ways as they dance along to music.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Children do not make enough progress and not all children are well prepared for their next stage in learning. Additional funding is not used effectively to provide children with targeted support and to make good progress. Despite this, children are confident. They gather their own resources and lead their own learning. Children make marks on paper using paint and older children begin to form letters of their name. They demonstrate good literacy skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY346062
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	1096059
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 - 10
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	98
Name of registered person	Ashington Minors Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP526709
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2016
Telephone number	01670 858887

Ashington Minors was registered in 2007. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff, 12 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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