

Inspection date	6 June 2017
Previous inspection date	7 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Staff do not consistently record the hours of children's attendance in the daily register. This breach also relates to the requirements of the Childcare Register.
- Staff do not seek written permission from parents for the administration of medicine to children. The provider gives medication records to parents when they have been completed and therefore they are not available at inspection. This breach also relates to the requirements of the Childcare Register.
- The provider's evaluation of staff practice is not yet effective enough to help raise the quality of their teaching to the highest possible level.
- Staff do not encourage parents to share information about the knowledge and skills children already have when they first start at the nursery to help them plan effectively from the outset.
- At times, staff do not make the best possible use of available space to fully engage older children in learning and help them to concentrate.

It has the following strengths

- Staff pay close attention to the progress of individual children. They quickly identify children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff work effectively with other professionals to support children and help them make good progress.
- Older children have good literacy skills. For instance, some children are reading books provided by a teacher from the local school.

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
■ maintain an accurate daily record of children's hours of attendance	06/07/2017
■ ensure written permission is obtained from parents for each prescription or non-prescription medication to be administered to children	06/07/2017
■ ensure all records are easily accessible and available; specifically a record of medicines administered to children.	06/07/2017

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

- build on the evaluation of staff practice to help tackle any minor variations in the quality of their teaching to help raise the level to a consistently high standard
- encourage parents to share more detailed information about children's capabilities when they first start and use this information to better inform planning from the outset
- review and assess how to use space in the nursery to help reduce interruptions to older children's play and learning.

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 with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and deputy manager. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers during the inspection, viewed their written feedback and took account of their views.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. All staff, including the provider, are knowledgeable about safeguarding procedures. They know how to report concerns about children's welfare. Staff know which children are due to attend on each day. However, they do not consistently update the daily record of children's attendance to ensure that this reflects their accurate hours of attendance. Staff verbally agree with parents any medication to administer to children. However, they do not obtain written permission to administer medicines. They also do not keep records on site of any medication they have administered to children. The provider meets with staff to identify their training needs and discuss their job role. She provides some feedback to staff on the quality of their teaching. However, this is not consistent enough to help develop all teaching to a high standard.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children's achievements and plan activities to help to promote their interests. Children develop their physical skills. For instance, staff provide activities to help younger children build on their enjoyment of playing with pegs. Children enjoy squeezing them open and closed. Training that staff attend has a positive impact on their teaching. For example, staff use the skills gained from training on signing to support children's communication skills. Staff have good relationships with parents and regularly update them about their children's progress. However, they do not seek enough detailed information from parents about what children already know and can do when they first start.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Weaknesses in leadership and management impact on children's safety and welfare. Children's engagement and motivation are generally good. However, the organisation of the nursery means that sometimes all children in the nursery are together in one room. Some children find it hard to concentrate on activities during this time. Children enjoy coming to nursery. The care of babies is good and staff nurture them sensitively. Staff promote children's healthy lifestyles effectively.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and learn the skills they need for school or the next stage in learning. Children acquire good mathematical skills, including how to match the number of dots correctly to the numeral. Children have a strong understanding of how to grow and care for living things. For example, they grow potatoes for a competition judged by the local horticultural society. Children behave positively, they use good manners and share toys with others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	224025
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	1087686
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 - 8
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Abkats Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP524982
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2014
Telephone number	01746 718400

Abkats Ltd registered in 2000 and is in Catherton Common, Shropshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am until 5.30pm, term time only. It is open during some school holidays when there is the demand. There are four members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and 3. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for 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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