

Alphabet House Day Nursery

Mansfield Road, Farnsfield, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG22 8HL



Inspection date

9 June 2017

Previous inspection date

16 January 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 have made significant improvements since the last inspection. The new manager supports her staff very well in their roles. The manager and room leaders observe staffs' practice and support them to provide consistently high-quality teaching.
- The member of staff responsible for supporting children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities works well with other professionals and parents. Children receive targeted support to meet their individual care and learning needs.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. Staff provide parents with clear information about their children's learning and development. They offer them a wide range of activities and experiences to support their children's learning at home.
- Staff promote positive behaviour. For example, they ask older children to put a pebble in a jar to reward their good behaviour. Children work together, developing their social skills, to fill the jar and choose a treat when it is full.
- Children are confident and demonstrate that they are emotionally secure. They are keen to arrive and settle quickly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff do not organise group activities well enough for children so they are highly engaged in the learning opportunities provided.
- Staff do not consistently help some children to think for themselves and fully express their own ideas and understanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider how the organisation of group activities for children can help them to be even more highly engaged in learning
- develop further the opportunities for children to think deeply and express their own ideas and understanding.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspectors spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the nursery manager and support manager. They looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspectors spoke to a number of parents, read the written feedback provided and took account of their views.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane / Melanie Arnold

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Self-evaluation is effective in continually driving improvements in outcomes for children. The manager gathers feedback from parents, staff and older children to help identify changes. Safeguarding is effective. New staff are given training on child protection. Staff discuss children's safety at meetings. They know where to report concerns that they have regarding children's welfare. Staff promote children's safety when travelling in nursery vehicles and have appropriate insurance and safety equipment in place. During the managers daily tour of the setting, she ascertains whether staff have any health, safety or safeguarding issues that she needs to be aware of and act on.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide focused small group activities for older children who need additional support. Staff get to know children well when they first start and provide activities to support their interests. Babies and toddlers enjoy investigating and exploring the different textures of water, foam and paint. Staff have developed their system for observing and monitoring children's progress to identify their next steps in learning. This is effective in helping children to make good progress. Staff utilise the local facilities and attractions. They take babies to a farm park and show them different animals, reinforcing the different sounds they make. This helps babies to distinguish different sounds.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The manager and staff have made significant changes to the environment and resources for children. This has had a positive impact on providing children with a calmer atmosphere to help them to develop their learning. Children learn about healthy foods and are provided with a good range of healthy snacks and meals. Staff provide children with opportunities to learn about different foods. They encourage them to explore the texture and taste and to use tools to cut and peel onions and carrots, developing their independence. Staff help children to manage their safety. For example, they talk to children about using knives safely. Children have plenty of opportunities to learn outside in the well-resourced garden. Toddlers demonstrate their physical skills when they lift and carry logs. Staff support older children to balance across wooden planks and tyres.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those in receipt of funding, make good progress. They learn key skills in readiness for their move on to school. Older children demonstrate good mathematical skills. They recognise numbers and count objects. Babies enjoy exploring the textures of water, foam and paint. Older children develop good literacy skills. They recognise the sounds of rhyming words and say, 'they sound the same'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY437582
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	1083635
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	114
Name of registered person	Alphabet House Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522508
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2017
Telephone number	01623 883114

Alphabet House Day Nursery registered in 2001 and is situated in Farnsfield, Newark. The nursery employs 21 members of childcare staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, three at level 2 and one at level 5. The nursery opens Monday to Friday all year round, closing for one week between Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It provides out-of-school care for older children.

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