

# Alphabets Day Nursery

15 York Avenue, Chatham, ME5 9EP



<b>Inspection date</b>	21 June 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children and babies investigate and explore using a wide range of toys and resources, indoors and outdoors, that help support their learning and interests. They make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Staff have formed positive relationships with parents. For instance, they provide them with daily updates on children's progress and information about the activities they take part in, to help support home learning.
- The management team implements good safeguarding procedures. It is fully aware of its role in protecting children and what to do should it have any concerns about children's safety and welfare.
- Children have daily opportunities to exercise, such as playing 'parachute games' with friends and balancing on beams to practise their physical skills.
- Children learn to respect and value their own and each other's differences. They use well-developed social skills, have good manners and consistently behave well.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff working with older children do not consistently maximise opportunities to challenge and extend children's learning to the highest levels.
- The provider does not fully evaluate the progress that specific groups of children make, to precisely target improvements to provide learning of the highest quality.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff working with older children to improve their skills and knowledge, to ensure that teaching is of the highest standard to extend older children's learning further
- use information from learning assessments more effectively to monitor the learning and progress being made by different groups of children, to target the teaching even more precisely.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the nursery.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector observed the interaction between staff and children, and spoke to them both at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector talked to the provider about how she evaluates the nursery and discussed her action plans.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read letters of reference to gain their views on the service they receive.

### Inspector

Sara Garrity

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management team uses strong recruitment and induction procedures to help support new staff. It monitors staff practice and opportunities for their professional development are good. For instance, staff are encouraged to attend training courses, such as investigative play to support babies' learning. The management team track the progress of individual children. They have forged strong links with other early years professionals to provide a continuity of care and learning. For example, teachers from local schools visit children at the nursery to help prepare them for the move to school. The management team constantly reflects on the service it offers children and their families. It engages children, parents and staff in the process, to help ensure it improves outcomes for children.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make effective use of observations and assessments to help them identify children's next steps in learning and plan activities that motivate them to learn. Staff working with babies interact and extend their learning. For example, they read stories and encourage babies to join in with the animal sounds. Staff further extend the activity to encourage children to identify animals in the farm set. Children make good progress with their communication and language. For instance, staff sing songs with children and engage them in experiences that focus on rhyming words, to help extend their vocabulary.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and have formed good relationships with staff. Staff praise children constantly for their achievements, which helps to support their emotional well-being and self-esteem. For instance, babies develop their hand-to-eye coordination as they build brick towers and respond with broad grins when adults clap and acknowledge their achievements. Staff have a strong focus on teaching children about a healthy diet. For example, they provide well-planned nutritious meals throughout the day. Children enjoy cooking activities, such as helping to make banana buns to eat at lunchtime. Children and babies come together at mealtimes, which helps further support their social interactions and development.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children and babies are prepared well for the next stage in their learning, including moving through the nursery and eventual move to school. Older children practise their early writing skills, such as making lists for what they need to buy at the shop. Children are active learners who enjoy playing cooperatively and imaginatively, such as dressing up and looking after the dolls. Babies are very confident, they are eager to engage with the activities on offer but will return to staff for a reassuring cuddle if needed.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY489643
<b>Local authority</b>	Medway Towns
<b>Inspection number</b>	1015181
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	59
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sally-Ann Jane Burgess
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP903201
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01634 868828

Alphabets Day Nursery registered in 2015. It is located in Walderslade, in Chatham, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, for most of the year. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs nine members of staff, eight of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

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