

Ash House Day Nursery

29 Withens Lane, Wallasey, Merseyside, CH44 1BB



Inspection date	27 July 2017
Previous inspection date	9 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are extremely well prepared for their next stage in learning and future move to school. Staff ensure important information about children's individual needs and development is shared with teachers and other professionals.
- The management team has good systems in place to monitor the progress of children's learning across the nursery. They use their tracking well to identify gaps in children's learning and provide targeted support.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff meet regularly with parents and discuss children's progress. They share learning records and ideas to help to support children's learning at home. Parents spoken to are very happy with the care and learning experiences children are provided with.
- Staff plan a wide range of stimulating and interesting activities based on children's interests and next steps in learning.
- Key-person relationships are highly effective. Staff are extremely tuned into children's individual needs and preferences. They attend specialist training when necessary to ensure children's medical and dietary needs are fully met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The current programme of professional development is not yet focused enough on supporting individual staff to raise their practice to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the programme of professional development to focus more strongly on extending staff's knowledge, skills and practice.

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 manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Nadine McCarthy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand their responsibility to protect children from harm. They have a good understanding of the child protection policies and the procedures for reporting concerns. Good recruitment procedures are in place to help to ensure all staff working with children are suitable. Staff attend regular first-aid training and safeguarding updates to keep their knowledge up to date. The manager reviews the quality of provision and seeks the views of staff and parents. She produces an action plan and uses this to identify improvements. Staff are very enthusiastic and committed to their roles. They work effectively together and have high expectations of the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well qualified and experienced. They engage well with children and provide plenty of opportunities for discussion. Staff value children's opinions and encourage them to share personal experiences. They use a wide range of strategies to support children's developing language and communication skills. Those working with younger children effectively model language and repeat simple words. Staff in the pre-school room introduce new vocabulary and use questioning techniques to promote children's critical-thinking skills. Stories, books and props are used particularly well to engage children's learning and imagination. Children use a range of resources that can be used in different ways to create and act out their own stories. Toddlers and younger children have good opportunities to explore the environment and engage in sensory activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are extremely positive role models. They consistently praise children's achievements and support their self-esteem. Children's behaviour is very good. Staff support them to consider the needs of others and manage conflicts. Children have an excellent understanding of healthy lifestyles and confidently discuss with staff the benefits of eating vegetables. Staff make the most of opportunities to enhance children's knowledge of health through discussions and daily routines. They plan a wealth of activities to support and extend children's physical skills, such as exercise sessions and trips outside of the nursery. Staff accompany children on visits to their new schools and help them to make booklets following their visits. The deputy manager strives to provide an inclusive service for children and families. She works alongside a wide range of professionals to ensure children's individual needs and requirements are planned for and supported.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. Children are very happy and settled in the nursery. Additional funding is used to purchase resources and support children's communication skills. Older children have good opportunities to develop their literacy skills. They learn to write their names independently and talk about letters and sounds. Younger children display high levels of involvement in activities and a positive attitude to learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306341
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1103513
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 - 5
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	105
Name of registered person	Ash House Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905507
Date of previous inspection	9 October 2014
Telephone number	0151 639 0202

Ash House Day Nursery registered in 1989. The nursery employs 27 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above including three staff who hold qualifications at level 6. Two members of staff hold early years professional status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7:30am until 6:30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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