

Normanhurst Day Nursery

110 St Georges Avenue, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN2 6JF



Inspection date

4 October 2017

Previous inspection date

10 January 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- Managers have worked closely together to make many improvements since the last inspection. They ensure staff manage children's behaviour well. Managers use performance management, including the monitoring of teaching, alongside professional development opportunities to help ensure teaching is good.
- Children freely explore the stimulating and welcoming environment that staff provide. All children make good progress relative to their starting points.
- Staff in pre-school are particularly focused on helping children who are learning English as an additional language to learn to speak English quickly in preparation for school. Some staff are able to chat to children in their home languages. Staff read stories in dual languages and help children use pictures and words to communicate their needs and wants.
- Staff help to children build positive relationships together. Children settle quickly and happily. Staff are vigilant about meeting children's physical needs. For example, they ensure children playing with water outside do not get too cold.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff working with two-year-old children do not precisely focus some activities as well as possible on their stage of development and level of understanding.
- Highly successful strategies are not in place to further support parents to extend their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider even more carefully children's existing skills and levels of understanding when planning activities for two-year-old children
- develop more opportunities to help parents further support their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed children's learning.
- The inspector considered the written and verbal views of parents and carers.
- The inspector and manager completed a joint observation and considered the managers self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke with the staff and held a meeting with the manager and nominated person. She looked at relevant documentation, including the self-evaluation form, records of children's learning and development, a selection of policies and procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures all staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge. Staff are aware of the reporting procedures to follow in the event of a child protection concern. The designated safeguarding officer works closely with other professionals involved in protecting children's welfare to help ensure their safety. The manager has worked closely with the local authority to improve teaching and staff's understanding of how children learn. She considers the views of parents, staff and other professionals in her accurate self-evaluation to identify areas to strengthen. As a result of feedback, she has improved security measures when parents drop off and collect their children. The manager checks children's progress to meet any requirements for additional support. She uses tracking of specific groups of children to help identify and address any areas in her provision that can be strengthened.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are attentive to children and support their ideas well. Staff working with children under two focus successfully on supporting their early physical, communication and social skills. They provide many opportunities for younger children to explore using their senses. They follow children's self-selected play well. Overall, two-year-old children receive effective support to develop the key skills needed for future learning. For example, they enjoy making marks in sand, in foam and on paper using pencils. Pre-school children receive good support to develop skills in preparation for school. Staff effectively use their planned opportunities to teach children the sounds that letters represent. Children have daily opportunities to engage in mathematically focused activities. Staff keep parents regularly informed about their children's progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff support children's safety and welfare effectively. Children settle quickly. Key persons work well with parents to ensure children are physically comfortable and receive continuity in their care experience. For instance, staff strictly adhere to any dietary requirements for children. Children learn to follow a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy daily, often energetic, outdoor play that particularly supports children who prefer to learn outside. Staff support children's social skills well. Staff help children learn to value each other's differences, such as languages.

Outcomes for children are good

Assessment and planning systems show all children are making good progress in their learning and development. All children learn to communicate well, including children who are learning English as an additional language. Children learn how to use the toys and environment safely, such as holding the bannister as they walk downstairs. Children who require additional support, including those who have attended only a short time, close gaps in their development as a result of effective targeted provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315302
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1083176
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 - 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	ABC Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906967
Date of previous inspection	10 January 2017
Telephone number	01604 713048

Normanhurst Day Nursery registered in 2005. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Five members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, two members of staff hold level 5 and one holds level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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