

Alison's Childcare And Early Education (ACE) Ltd

Unit A1, Robian Way, SWADLINCOTE, Derbyshire, DE11 9DH



Inspection date

10 October 2017

Previous inspection date

1 June 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Staff working with the younger children do not use the information gained from observations of the children's play and achievements to plan for children's individual learning effectively. Therefore, some children do not make good progress.
- The quality of teaching varies. Some staff working with younger children do not challenge or extend learning effectively to enable children to reach their full potential.
- Although the management team has introduced new systems to help evaluate staff performance, these are not yet thorough enough to raise the quality of teaching in the room for younger children to a consistently good level.
- At times, the organisation of some daily routines interrupts children's learning. Children are not able to complete the tasks they are engaged in to their own satisfaction.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are effective. Staff regularly talk to parents to share information about their child, including their activities at home.
- Children are happy and staff support them to settle and feel secure. Children form strong attachments to staff and this helps to promote children's emotional well-being.
- Children behave well. They are suitably supported by staff and learn boundaries and expectations. Children cooperate well with each other, share and take turns.
- The provider ensures that the premises are safe and secure and that staff supervise children effectively to help keep them safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

	Due Date
■ make better use of the information gained from observations to plan activities that are geared towards children's individual learning, in particular for the younger children	10/01/2018
■ improve the quality of teaching in the room for younger children, ensuring that staff extend children's learning so that they consistently make good progress.	10/01/2018

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

- focus support and professional development for staff working with younger children more precisely to provide them with the knowledge and skills needed to raise the quality of teaching to a consistently good level
- manage changes to routines more effectively to help minimise interruptions to children's learning, so that they have more opportunities to complete tasks to their own satisfaction.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities, indoors and outdoors, and the interactions between the staff and children. She looked at the play equipment and resources.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the deputy manager and discussed the impact of teaching.
- The inspector spoke with the provider, the deputy manager, staff and some parents. She also talked with the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector discussed the children's learning and progress with the provider, the deputy manager and the children's key person.
- The inspector discussed with the provider and deputy manager some of the nursery's policies and procedures, and looked at evidence of staff's suitability and qualifications. She also discussed staff performance, self-evaluation and the nursery's action plan for improvement.

Inspector

Janice Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The management team is working to improve the quality of the nursery. It has made changes since the last inspection and addressed most of the previous actions and recommendations. The management team supports individual staff and is taking steps to address inconsistencies in teaching practice. Staff receive regular supervision and complete further training to support their professional development. However, this has not yet been fully effective in raising the quality of teaching and outcomes for younger children. Safeguarding is effective. Detailed recruitment and vetting procedures are followed to determine the suitability of staff to work with children. Staff have a clear understanding of safeguarding issues and procedures to follow if they have any concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. Staff working with the younger children do not use the information gained from their observations effectively to plan activities that promotes children's individual development. They do not consistently challenge and extend children's learning. For example, children enjoy printing with carrots and fir cones, but staff do not use the activity well to teach children new skills or to extend their language. However, older children are taught effectively. The staff working with pre-school children are enthusiastic and interact with children in positive ways, motivating and supporting their learning well. For example, they help children to build houses out of different materials after enjoying a popular story about pigs. They extend children's learning and encourage them to write their own story about 'little pigs'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Inconsistencies in the quality of teaching mean that some of the younger children are not motivated or inspired to learn as much as they can. Despite this, staff are attentive to their care needs. However, staff in the pre-school room sometimes interrupt children's learning, such as for snack time and outside play. Staff promote healthy lifestyles. For example, children follow appropriate hygiene routines, enjoy healthy snacks and meals and have daily opportunities to be physically active outdoors. Staff help children to learn about each other's backgrounds and diversity, for example, through books and role-play opportunities. They find out key words in the children's home language from parents and help children who speak English as an additional language to communicate.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Outcomes for younger children are not good enough. Some do not make sufficient progress from their starting points. In contrast, older children make good progress in their development and are prepared well for their next steps in learning and for school. They concentrate, listen to stories and are developing positive attitudes to their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493193
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	1100603
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	30
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	Alison's Childcare And Early Education (ACE) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901774
Date of previous inspection	1 June 2017
Telephone number	01283215342

Alison's Childcare And Early Education (ACE) Ltd registered in 2016. The nursey employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 or 3 and the manager holds a foundation degree in early years studies. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round, except for a week between Christmas and New Year, and bank holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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