

Ashford Family Nursery

Albert Road, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8NY



Inspection date

8 November 2017

Previous inspection date

9 June 2015

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		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- All staff have high expectations for children's behaviour. They give children clear and consistent guidelines and are good role models. They effectively support children's emotional and social development.
- The manager has a strong commitment to improving practice across all areas of the nursery. She regularly evaluates practice, and listens to the views of parents, staff and other professionals, to develop clear and achievable improvement plans.
- Staff have very good relationships with outside agencies and professionals. Children with specific needs or families who face challenging circumstances are very well supported.
- Children of all abilities make good progress from their starting points. They learn through well-planned activities that build on what they can do and what they are interested in. They are well prepared for their future learning.
- Parents respect the advice staff give, and value the information that they share with them about their children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Nursery routines sometimes take priority over what children are choosing to do and how they are engaging in their play. Occasionally this stops children from becoming more deeply involved in their own learning.
- Sometimes, opportunities for staff to gain information about what children are learning at home are limited.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and improve some routines to support children to become deeply involved in their own play and learning
- establish additional ways of working with parents, to discover more about the skills and languages children are learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and learning indoors and outside.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including records of children's progress, the nursery's self-evaluation and improvement plans, policies and procedures and evidence of suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with parents and other professionals, and took account of their views.

Inspector

Alison Martin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager ensures the well qualified staff consistently enhance their professional knowledge and attend training. Opportunities to share this knowledge, such as in staff meetings, help all staff improve their teaching. Safeguarding is effective. All staff know what to do if they are concerned about the welfare of a child. The manager carefully monitors the progress of all children, including those who have special educational needs, or speak English as an additional language. Any gaps in children's learning or development are quickly identified and interventions swiftly put in place to help stop them falling behind their peers. Any additional funding for children is used effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff check the progress and skills of children regularly. They plan challenging and stimulating activities that support children to develop their curiosity, such as when they look at the similarities and differences of shells through magnifying glasses. Children learn to listen carefully. For example, when following a story, staff ask them to recall the details by using props and by asking them questions. Children are encouraged to exercise and improve their physical skills, such as when they collect leaves in big buckets or climb high on the climbing frame. Staff make good use of naturally occurring opportunities to teach children about the world around them, such as when they find worms and bugs hiding under the leaves outside. Staff use different strategies, such as sign language, to develop children's communication and language.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop secure attachments to the nurturing and caring staff. Staff keep children's well-being and emotional security at the heart of what they do. They support children to stay healthy, such as by providing parents with information about healthy eating. Children learn to respect one another. Children explore and are curious and staff help them to try new ideas. For example, using building blocks in new ways, or pretending to cook food for a birthday party in the home corner. Children have space to run around and exercise together, such as when they dance to music, or chase each other outside. Children learn about their community as they take trips out to explore the local area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop skills, such as independence and confidence, helping to prepare them for school. They enjoy looking at books and become deeply engrossed in writing activities, such as when they write their names on stickers. They sing songs to help them count backwards and forwards, using their fingers to help them add one more number. Children know how to seek help from adults to help them learn and understand more. They are happy and content as they play, and learn to make new friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126979
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1089322
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	2 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	33
Name of registered person	Ashford Family Nursery Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP555079
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2015
Telephone number	01233 643404

Ashford Family Nursery registered in 1992 and is open from 9am to 3pm each weekday for 46 weeks of the year. There is a breakfast club from 8.20am on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The nursery receives funding for free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. There are seven members of staff, six of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from levels 3 to 5.

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