

Ascot Nursery School

1 Arundel Cottage, High Street, Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 7JJ



Inspection date

26 April 2018

Previous inspection date

16 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider has not maintained up-to-date safeguarding policies and procedures, or ensured the staff have a secure knowledge of child protection and how to report others if they need to. She does not meet her responsibility to safeguard children.
- The provider has failed to ensure that there is always at least one member of staff present who holds a valid paediatric first-aid qualification. She does not complete accurate attendance registers to record actual times children are in attendance. This compromises children's safety.
- The manager does not monitor staff practice effectively, or provide support and coaching to help improve the quality of teaching and outcomes for children.
- Staff do not make accurate assessments of children's progress. They do not plan effectively to help children meet their next steps in learning. Not all children, including those learning English as an additional language, make good or better progress.
- The manager has not made effective use of self-evaluation to identify all weaknesses in practice, to improve outcomes for children.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy, settle well and enjoy positive relationships with staff.
- Overall, partnerships with parents are strong. Parents comment that staff are approachable and care for their children well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ maintain and implement an up-to-date safeguarding policy in line with local safeguarding children's board procedures and ensure that staff gain an up-to-date knowledge of all safeguarding issues, including the 'Prevent' duty, and have a clear understanding of whistleblowing procedures	15/05/2018
■ maintain an accurate daily record of children being cared for on the premises and their actual hours of attendance	05/05/2018
■ ensure an appropriately qualified first aider is available on the premises at all times	05/05/2018
■ monitor staff practice and provide them with effective support, coaching and training to improve the quality of teaching, so that children make consistently good, or better, progress	01/06/2018
■ make accurate assessments of children's progress, including their starting points, and plan effectively to challenge children and build on what they know and can do, to help all children, including those learning English as an additional language, to make consistently good, or better, progress.	01/06/2018

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

- ensure self-evaluation is used effectively to clearly identify all areas for improvement and raise outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the manager, children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of teaching with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities, and the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including policies and procedures, records for children and evidence of the suitability of staff.

Inspector

Clare Perry

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. The provider, who is also the manager, does not ensure that staff have a good awareness of all safeguarding concerns. For example, staff do not have an awareness of wider safeguarding issues, such as how to protect children from extremist behaviours and views. They are not all aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about another staff member. This means children's safety cannot be assured. The manager has made some improvements since the last inspection, such as introducing observations of staff practice and supervision meetings. However, these are not yet robust enough to identify and address weaknesses to ensure consistently good teaching. Although the manager and staff reflect on aspects of practice, self-evaluation is not effective in identifying all weaknesses to raise the overall quality of the provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable. At times, staff do not make the best use of activities and opportunities to encourage children to solve problems and think for themselves. Staff provide some good activities to support children's mathematical development. For example, children enjoyed exploring the life cycle of frogs in the sand tray through songs and counting. Staff plan some enjoyable experiences that support children's understanding of the world, such as building rockets to launch in the garden. They complete regular assessments of children's progress. However, these are not always accurate. Staff gain some information from parents when children first start. However, they do not ask about children's skills and abilities on entry, to help them build on what children know and can do, particularly for those children learning English as an additional language. The manager uses additional funding effectively. For example, she recently purchased an outdoor kitchen to help support some children's social skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Children's welfare cannot be assured. There is not a member of staff with a first-aid certificate on site at all times, as required. In addition to this, the provider keeps a record of children's attendance, but fails to record the actual times that children are present. The weaknesses in safeguarding knowledge also put children at risk. Nonetheless, children learn ways to keep themselves safe. For example, staff remind children where they can ride their bicycles in the garden and not to rock back on their chairs. Children have opportunities to exercise daily and enjoy outdoor play. Staff provide clear guidance and explanations to help children learn to manage their behaviour effectively.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Not all children make the best possible progress. Most children are developing within typical ranges for their age. However, some children do not make good enough progress with communication and language development, including those learning English as an additional language. Despite this, most children are confident and inquisitive learners. They enjoy looking at books. Older children are beginning to recognise and write familiar words, such as their names, and gain some of the skills to support their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	108379
Local authority	Windsor & Maidenhead
Inspection number	1126545
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	23
Name of registered person	Patricia Elizabeth Evitt
Registered person unique reference number	RP511938
Date of previous inspection	16 July 2015
Telephone number	01344 878431 01344 625539

Ascot Nursery School registered in 1972. It is situated in Ascot, Berkshire. The nursery is open five days a week during term time, from 9am to 12.30pm on Monday to Friday, and from 1pm to 4.30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. A lunch club operates from 12.30 pm until 1pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, which allows some children to stay all day. A holiday club is held from 9am to 4pm on Tuesday and Thursday during some school holidays. The nursery school is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are six members of staff, one of whom has an early years degree and five hold qualifications to level 3.

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