

Alphabet House Day Nursery

42-44 Attenborough Lane, Chilwell, Nottingham NG9 5JW



Inspection date	23 August 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The newly appointed manager makes good use of self-evaluation to identify accurately the strengths and areas for development within the nursery. She works well with the provider and all staff to make ongoing improvements to maintain good standards.
- Children grow in self-confidence and develop strong levels of independence. For example, very young children learn to select and use resources carefully, and make choices about what to do.
- Children make good progress from their various starting points. This includes children for whom the setting receives additional funding. Children develop a range of skills to support the next stages in their learning, including being ready for school.
- Children learn in a bright and motivating environment. Staff provide a wide range of interesting and imaginative experiences to engage children, and promote their curiosity in each group room.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Not all staff make full use of children's next steps in learning to support and extend their development even further.
- Sometimes staff step in too quickly asking questions without giving the children sufficient time and opportunity to think, process their thoughts and respond.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- offer staff further support to identify and extend children's next steps in learning more swiftly, to help increase their progress to the highest possible level
- create more opportunities to give children additional time and opportunity to think through their ideas, work things out and help them respond to questions with greater success.

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 nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and provider. 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

Tina Garner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager monitors staff closely. She observes them as they work with children and meets with them to discuss aspects of their role. Training opportunities are carefully planned by the management team to help ensure that staff have the skills to fulfil their role effectively. For example, in-house training and regular discussions during team meetings have further helped staff understand aspects of good teaching and learning. The manager analyses and reflects on the progress of individual and specific groups of children, including those in receipt of additional funding. Staff use various strategies to engage parents in their child's learning at home. Parents' comments show that they find staff friendly, approachable and caring. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff can identify issues that would give them cause for concern about a child's welfare. They know how to refer any concerns to the relevant authorities to protect children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff assess children's achievements effectively to help identify their interests and stages of development. They make sure that the broad range of activities provided encourages them to be imaginative and develop their curiosity. For example, staff introduce sensory play that reflects older children's strong interest in a particular story. As the children make 'Gruffalo crumble', staff show interest, listen and respond to children's ideas, to enrich their learning. Staff encourage children to solve problems, increase their physical skills and to try out new experiences. Toddlers explore with sand outside. They fill buckets with sand, pat it down and discuss how much they need to make it full. In this way, children become independent learners.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff develop close bonds with children and are sensitive and responsive to their needs, which helps children to feel safe and secure. Children interact confidently with their peers, staff and visitors to the nursery. Staff are good role models. They manage children's behaviour consistently, praising children and gently explaining why some behaviours are not appropriate. Staff talk to children about the importance of a healthy diet and ensure they follow good hygiene procedures. They provide children with daily opportunities for exploration and fresh air in the two exciting outdoor play areas. Trips in the local community, such as forest-school activities, greatly enhance children's understanding of the world and the community in which they live.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages are active and independent learners. They challenge themselves and build on what they already know as they explore their ideas and interests. For example, older children practise writing and begin to recognise their names. Toddlers use their imaginations as they use cooking utensils, play with dolls, and dress up. Babies develop good hand-to-eye coordination as they explore sensory activities, such as water play and blowing bubbles outside.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY501770
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10059352
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	55
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Forest Schools Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP903511
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0115 9224204

Alphabet House Day Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 11 childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3 or 5. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and a week at Christmas. Sessions run from 7am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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