

Almond House Nursery

9 Forest Road, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 8EU



Inspection date	21 August 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- When children start at the setting management seek information about children's individual allergies, medical and health needs. However, they have not considered fully, how to ensure that all staff have easy access to this information, to enable them to take the appropriate and prompt action, if a child becomes unwell.
- Although management monitors the quality of teaching, the systems are not as fully effective as they could be, to help extend staff's teaching even further to a consistently higher level throughout the setting.

It has the following strengths

- Staff create a calm and welcoming environment, where children freely explore and make independent choices in their play. They use a wonderful selection of resources in the very well planned and equipped indoor and outdoor play areas.
- Management and staff meticulously monitor the progress children make. They seek the views of parents and consider these in their improvement plans. Managers systematically evaluate the impact these have on children's learning, to ensure children make at least good rates of progress.
- Children have strong attachments with staff, who model positive behaviour very well. Children are kind and considerate towards one another. They share and take turns with play equipment and delight in the praise they receive from staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due date
improve systems so all staff have access to any key information about children's allergies, medical and health needs, so they can take appropriate and prompt action to meet any individual needs.	21/09/2018

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

- extend the monitoring and evaluation systems for staff's practices, to develop and enhance the quality of teaching and learning to a consistently higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with the manager.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and reviewed the impact on children's learning. The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and provider. She reviewed suitability checks for all staff, policies, procedures, and records regarding health and safety.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of children, parents and carers and considered their views.
- The inspector reviewed the setting's self-evaluation and discussed this with the manager and provider.

Inspector

Jennifer Dove

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Management ensures all staff complete training in safeguarding procedures, so they understand their responsibilities. Staff are clear on the necessary action they should take, should they have a concern about a child's welfare. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures help to ensure the suitability of all those who have access to children. Clear procedures for administering medication and information is sought about children's unique health needs when children first start. However, the managers have not considered how to ensure that all staff have access to such specific information, to enable them to act swiftly and in the child's best interests, if they should become unwell at the setting. The management uses self-evaluation well to identify and address areas for improvement which focus well on the children's needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff methodically plan stimulating and challenging activities that meet children's individual learning needs well. Children focus and engage well in their learning. They demonstrate high levels of confidence, as they move freely around the indoor and outdoor play areas. Staff understand how children learn best and use their individual interests to support good learning and development. For example, staff skilfully support younger children's physical development as they climb on the outdoor play equipment. Older children learn about the differences between people, for example, when they complete large atlas floor jigsaws and read interesting stories about different communities around the world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Overall, staff support children's individual needs well, although at times, systems for the safe administration of some non-prescribed medication are not fully effective and as robust as they could be. Staff provide a safe learning environment. They complete daily risk assessments to monitor the suitability of the premises and minimise risks and hazards to children. Staff encourage children's independence from an early stage. For example, babies begin to feed themselves using plastic spoons and finger foods, according to their age and stage of development, and older children help prepare tables and serve their own meals. Children develop a good awareness of how to lead a healthy lifestyle. For example, they learn where food comes from and discuss this as they prepare meals. They grow food produce with staff, which they use to make healthy snacks and meals to share with family and friends.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for their eventual move to school. Younger children develop their mathematical and literacy skills as they count number cards displayed across the outdoor area. Older children develop their early writing skills using water and paintbrushes to make marks in outdoor play. Babies explore textures and sounds using sensory baskets during story time. Children are active and curious learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY536104
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	10060250
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Hazelden, Karen
Registered person unique reference number	RP512167
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01484 426002

Almond House Nursery registered in 2016. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds a level 6 early years qualification and seven hold appropriate level 3 childcare qualifications. The nursery opens from 7am until 6pm from Monday to Friday all year round, except for Christmas and bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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