

Axstane House Nursery

Axstane House, Hever Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 6HD



Inspection date	14 December 2018
Previous inspection date	9 August 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

This provision is good

- Staff establish positive partnerships with parents and encourage them to be fully informed and involved in their children's learning, such as adding to their children's progress records regularly.
- Staff get to know individual children and their personalities well. Children have a good sense of belonging and positive levels of well-being and self-worth.
- The manager and staff effectively evaluate their practice together. They hold daily meetings to discuss how well they motivated children to learn. They use their findings to make challenging targets and develop their future performance.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their early writing skills to support their future learning. For example, they confidently write their name and simple words.
- All children gain a good understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles. For instance, they discuss the importance of washing away germs before mealtimes.
- Staff support all children to make good progress, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. For example, they liaise closely with outside agencies, such as speech therapists, to share helpful and consistent ideas and strategies.
- Staff miss some opportunities to extend children's communication and language skills even further so they have the time and opportunity to answer questions.
- Staff miss opportunities for children to be independent and complete their own tasks, to help extend their skills to support their future learning even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's opportunities to have enough time to think about and respond to questions
- review and improve children's opportunities to be even more independent and consistently complete their own tasks.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff interacting with children and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to the manager, children, parents and staff, and considered their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector
Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager and staff have made significant improvements since their last inspection. The manager ensures that she recruits staff who are safe to fulfil their roles and responsibilities. For example, she carries out all required suitability checks. The manager closely monitors the consistency of care and teaching that staff provide children. For example, she observes staff teach children daily. She holds regular individual meetings to set challenging targets to develop their performance. All staff are keen to develop their skills and knowledge further. For instance, they have learned about the different ways that children play and learn. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding procedures to follow to help protect children's safety and welfare. They know whom to contact to raise and follow up concerns. Staff ensure that they deploy themselves well to meet the required ratios and supervise children effectively. Staff teach children how to remain safe. For example, they regularly practise fire evacuations and children know what to do in the event of an emergency. Staff ensure that the environments are safe. For example, they complete thorough risk assessments.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff closely monitor and track children's individual progress and that of specific groups. This enables them to highlight promptly any gaps in their development and provide good support to help close them swiftly. Staff have an effective key-person system to help them to support children to meet their full potential. Staff effectively support children to prepare for their eventual move to school. For example, children count confidently as they play. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who enjoy a story about space, go on to make pictures of their own solar system.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are positive role models. Children are polite and behave well. Children gain good social skills and build meaningful friendships. For example, they happily play together, take turns and share resources maturely. Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills. For example, they build and negotiate obstacles confidently, such as when they balance on beams. Children gain a good understanding of other people's similarities and differences. For example, they learn about other religious dress, as they try on saris.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who learn English as an additional language, make good progress in their learning and development. All children gain good skills to support their future learning. For example, they develop good early reading skills and recognise letters and simple words. Children develop a good understanding of the world and enjoy simple experiments. For example, they explore how ice is formed and what causes it to melt.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551378
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10077879
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Benfield, Thembelihle
Registered person unique reference number	RP551377
Date of previous inspection	9 August 2018
Telephone number	01474852225

Axstane House Nursery registered in 2017. It is located in Sevenoaks, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm, all year round. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs six members of staff, four of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 2 and above. This includes one member of staff who holds a relevant early years qualification at level 4.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

