

Alphabet City Day Nursery

Alphabet City Day Nursery Ltd, Highfield, Sherborne Road, Basingstoke,
Hampshire RG21 5TG



Inspection date	15 August 2019
Previous inspection date	5 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- The manager and her staff are highly committed to their roles and responsibilities. They use many methods to evaluate the provision. For example, they seek the views of parents and complete quality improvement audits, to help raise standards to a high level.
- Staff use detailed observation records, and their knowledge of individual children's interests, to plan a broad range of activities. As a result, children are enthusiastic and eager to explore and learn.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Staff offer a good range of initiatives to engage, support and build on parents' interest in their children's development. This helps to provide children with continuity in their learning and care.
- Staff provide a nurturing and caring environment for everyone. Children and their families are treated with respect and every child is valued.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff are good role models who provide consistent guidance and strategies to promote positive behaviour.
- All children, including those who need additional support, make good progress from their starting points. They successfully develop the skills they need for their future learning, including school.
- Staff do not organise themselves consistently well during the transitions between activities, to maximise the learning opportunities for children throughout the day.
- On occasion, staff miss some opportunities to extend children's interest to explore and investigate the world around them even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of staff during the transition between activities, to ensure that all children remain fully engaged in their play and learning experiences throughout the day
- extend children's experiences to explore and investigate the natural world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children and considered the impact on their learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector asked the staff questions throughout the inspection to establish their understanding of how to safeguard children, and how they monitor children's learning and development.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including qualifications, children's records and policies.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the manager and discussed self-evaluation with her.

Inspector

Ingrid Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager monitors children's outcomes effectively. She quickly identifies any gaps in children's learning and helps staff to plan additional support, so that children catch up quickly. She works very closely with other professionals involved in children's care. This helps her to assist families, so that they access the help they need to support children to thrive. Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures that staff have an up to date knowledge and a clear understanding of the signs that a child may be at risk. She focuses highly on staff professional development and supervises them well. For example, she regularly observes them as they interact with children and provides opportunities to help improve their skills, such as through training and coaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and her staff work very well together, as an enthusiastic and committed team. They have a secure understanding of how children learn and develop, and provide children with good opportunities to explore and practise new skills. Children have access to a good variety of books and easily accessible writing resources, to enable them to develop their early literacy skills. For example, babies and toddlers make marks as they play, and older children recognise and write their names and record their thoughts and ideas. Staff provide a good range of resources to help develop children's thinking and problem-solving skills. For instance, children use large plastic pipes and explore a variety of ways to position these, to find out if cars will travel faster if the pipes are higher or lower. Children demonstrate high levels of imagination, as they become engrossed in role play. For example, toddlers use shells as telephones and pretend to talk to people who are familiar to them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The caring staff spend plenty of time playing with children in a positive way. They build strong bonds with children, who are happy, settled and secure. The inclusive and nurturing environment successfully supports children's emotional well-being. Children successfully lead a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy nutritious meals and snacks and have plenty of fresh air and exercise, such as through many outdoor activities in the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have fun as they learn and are eager to participate in activities. Older children have a good understanding of letters and the sounds they represent. They demonstrate a good awareness of numbers and counting, and identify the difference between heavy and light. Babies join in with activities to help develop their senses, such as through messy activities. Children happily talk about their experiences and share their thoughts, views and ideas with others. During group activities they understand the importance of taking turns and listening to others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350884
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10108654
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Alphabet City Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902164
Date of previous inspection	5 January 2015
Telephone number	01256 322 090

Alphabet City Day Nursery Ltd registered in 2007. It is located in Basingstoke, Hampshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am until 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. There are 18 staff who work at the nursery. Of these, one holds a qualification at level 6, one at level 5 and one at level 4. A further 13 staff have qualifications at level 3. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

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

