

# Inspection of Little Avanti Aldenham

Aldenham Adventure Play Ground, Aldenham Country Park, Dagger Lane, Elstree, Borehamwood, Middlesex WD6 3AT

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Inspection date:

23 March 2022

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## Overall effectiveness

## Requires improvement

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The quality of education

**Requires improvement**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Good**

Personal development

**Requires improvement**

Leadership and management

**Requires improvement**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision requires improvement

The quality of teaching is variable and, therefore, children do not always have access to a high-quality learning environment. Children are happy and safe at the setting and there is a cheerful atmosphere in which children enjoying playing. They develop strong relationships with their friends. This helps to develop their social skills. There is a clear routine in place, that children confidently understand. Staff are available to support children with the next part of their day. Children's individual care needs are met, and staff work hard to support new children with settling in following the COVID-19 pandemic. By exploring the environment freely, children can make independent choices about their learning. Activities are planned, however, they do not always support the next steps in children's learning.

Children have access to a wide range of experiences, particularly out in the local area. They explore local woodlands where they collect sticks to create letters back at the setting. They independently put on their wellington boots and coats. Children know to wait for the adults at the gate and understand staff expectations for their behaviour. Staff go through the rules of the walk with all children. Younger children look at a poster and photos for support while the older children talk through the rules with staff.

### What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The provider has clear intent for the curriculum. However, due to inconsistent staffing, staff are not always consistent at delivering high-quality learning for all children. Key persons have good knowledge of their key children, but this information is not always shared with other staff. This has an impact on the learning experiences children receive while in the setting. Some staff have a general idea of what children know and how to support activities. However, staff lack knowledge of the next steps in children's learning, and so are not able to extend individual children's learning.
- Some staff effectively tell stories, which support children's language development. Using expressive tones, the staff member attracts children to her story session while sitting in the garden. This helps children to develop a love of books. Children listen intently, and develop their concentration skills.
- Children have a lot of opportunities to make marks. This supports their early writing development. In the garden area, children explore paints. Staff help children at the activity and role model how to create chalk shavings to add to their pictures. Some children remain at this activity for a long period of time.
- The setting promotes healthy lifestyles well. Children have access to a lot of fresh air. Using the local country park, children have space to run around and develop their physical skills. The setting provides all meals and snacks for the children to ensure that they access a healthy balanced diet.

- Children learn about being safe throughout their time at the setting. While out in the local country park, staff talk to the children about road safety. They take time to look out for cars as they cross the car park. This teaches children about being safe and being aware of dangers.
- Children are spoken to throughout the day. Some staff effectively introduce a wider vocabulary to children. Staff talk to children about their emotions and the impact their emotions have on the pupils in their eyes. They discuss whether their friend's pupils are big or small. Later, out in the farmyard, staff discuss the specific types of goats the children see. However, this good quality teaching is not consistent by all staff and, therefore, learning opportunities differ for children.
- The manager has good knowledge of her staff team. She is aware of the weaknesses in practice, but is not able to spend sufficient time with staff to upskill them. The manager has identified effectively where staff need training and creates plans for training days.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children are kept safe and secure in the setting. Staff have good knowledge of the setting's safeguarding policy and understand when there is a need to report concerns. Staff who work temporarily at the setting have a good induction and are introduced to the setting policies on safeguarding. The manager ensures that all staff in the setting are suitable and monitors this effectively through staff supervisions. Staff complete risk assessments throughout the day, particularly when they are out in the local country park.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:**

	Due date
ensure the key-person approach successfully and consistently meets children's individual learning needs	27/05/2022
support staff to continually improve their teaching skills to ensure children have a good early years experience.	27/05/2022

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2519634
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10207997
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	2 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	26
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Avanti Education Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2519632
<b>Telephone number</b>	07769554911
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Little Avanti Aldenham registered in 2019. It is one of two early years settings run by Avanti Education Ltd. It operates between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday. The setting employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6. Three members of staff hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one is unqualified. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Lisa Smith

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in the evaluations of the provider.
- The inspector completed a learning walk together of all the areas of the setting and discussed their curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- The inspector spoke with parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation including documentation to ensure all staff suitability to work with children.

We carried out this inspection 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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