

Inspection of Alphabet House Day Nursery

The Lodge, Adbolton Lane, West Bridgford, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire NG2 5AS

Inspection date: 29 July 2022

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous
inspection Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children develop warm trusting relationships with staff, who are kind and caring. For instance, babies cuddle with staff as they contentedly drink their milk and toddlers look to staff for reassurance. Children demonstrate they feel happy, safe and well cared for. They develop good levels of confidence and self-esteem and a willingness to try new activities. For instance, older children take steps along low-level wooden beams as they gain control in their physical abilities. Toddlers are confident to try new foods and particularly enjoy being creative. They experiment with play dough, adding natural resources to change the texture.

Children behave well. Pre-school children listen thoughtfully to each other's ideas as they discuss what they would like to play with. Babies watch their friends as they shake instruments. Children are aware of the rules and expectations of the nursery. They show high levels of motivation in their play and are valued by attentive staff. Children receive lots of opportunities to celebrate what makes them unique and learn about those who may be different from them. For example, they talk about where they live and learn new words to describe the type of house, they live in.

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

- Staff know their key children well and incorporate children's interests into activities. They plan activities following on from their assessments of what children know and can do. However, on occasion, staff do not support children to learn intended new skills. For example, planned activities to teach children why they need to clean their teeth do not focus on the proposed learning outcome.
- Children's communication and language is well supported. Babies pretend to hold a doll as they follow the actions in a rhyme about rocking babies. Toddlers are encouraged to answer simple questions with a sentence and pre-school children are confident when describing what they have drawn. As a result, children are making good progress in their communication skills in preparation for when they leave nursery.
- Children have lots of opportunities to be independent. For example, pre-school children serve their own snack and lunch. They pour their own drinks and tidy up when they have finished eating. This gives children a sense of pride and encourages them to take responsibility. Staff effectively prompt all children when the nursery routine is about to change. This gives children time to end their play and get ready for the next activity.
- Toddlers and older children form friendships and work collaboratively with each other. Pre-school children share their thoughts to make a shopping list together. Toddlers share resources and take turns to use ride on cars. However, some

larger group activities are not particularly meaningful to children, which means they lose interest.

- Children learn to behave well and use their manners. They respond positively to reminders from staff, who teach them to think of others. For example, they remember it is their friends' birthday and ask if they can play games to celebrate.
- Children's physical health is promoted well through nutritious food, regular fresh air, and exercise. Staff provide ample opportunity for all children to be physically active. For example, babies are supported to develop the muscle control they need to be able to sit, through having time to play on their tummy. Pre-school children learn about the world around them as they fill their watering cans to water the vegetables they have planted. They look through the fence to watch horses in the field next door.
- Parents comment positively about their children's experiences at the setting. They are happy that their children have opportunities they do not get at home, such as access to outdoor play. Parents report that their children's communication skills have improved since attending the setting and they are developing confidence and making friends.
- Staff meet regularly with the manager for supervision meetings. This helps to support staff's practice, professional development and identify any additional training needs. Staff feel valued and enjoy working in the nursery, as the owner provides facilities to support their well-being.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff team understand their role in protecting children. They are able to identify signs that a child may be at risk of harm and what action they need to take. Staff know who the nursery's designated safeguarding leads are. When appointing new staff, the provider and managers follow thorough recruitment processes to assure themselves that staff are suitable. Staff supervise children well as they play indoors and outside. Children with allergies are kept safe. Appropriate meals are prepared by the nursery cook and all staff are aware of allergies.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to fully implement the curriculum to ensure all children are learning as much as they can
- review the organisation of larger group activities to ensure all children remain fully engaged and interested in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY405561
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10235377
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	85
Number of children on roll	107
Name of registered person	Alphabet House Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP522508
Telephone number	01159820101
Date of previous inspection	29 September 2016

Information about this early years setting

Alphabet House Day Nursery located in West Bridgford, Nottingham, registered in 2009. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm. It is open all year round, closing for public holidays and a week at Christmas. The nursery employs 21 members of staff, 13 hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lianne McElvaney

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 his evaluation of the provider.
- The manager took the inspector on a learning walk around the nursery to share what the staff provide and how this assists children in their learning and development.
- The quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors was observed, and the inspector assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with management, staff, parents and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.

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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