

Bluebells Nursery

31-37 Bond Street, Ipswich, IP4 1JD



Inspection date

5 December 2016

Previous inspection date

17 April 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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 nursery is managed well. There is a targeted training programme for staff. This provides them with skills to support them in their roles. As a result, the quality of teaching is good.
- Staff are friendly and approachable. They give parents information about their children's care and progress. Staff work flexibly with children and their families to meet their changing needs.
- Children are happy and confident because they have good relationships with staff and their key person. Staff make clear their expectations for children's behaviour, which means that they behave well and respond positively to others.
- Staff take every opportunity to develop and extend children's communication and language skills. One of the ways they do this is by using sign language very effectively to support the communication skills of younger children and those who speak English as an additional language.
- Children are encouraged to think about how they can keep themselves safe. For example, children are reminded how to stay safe as they move around the nursery and use resources and tools, such as knives to cut up their fruit.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not gather precise information from parents about children's learning when they first start, in order to accurately assess their starting points.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather further information from parents about what children know and can do when they start at the nursery and use this to effectively support their progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the managers, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the children's development records.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed procedures relating to safeguarding. She discussed a range of other procedures relating to children's safety and welfare with the provider.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff complete risk assessments to ensure the premises are safe and secure. They are aware of the work of their Local Safeguarding Children Board and know what to do if they have concerns about a child's development or welfare. Robust systems are in place for recruiting staff and checking their continued suitability. There are clear procedures for managing any allegation that may be made against a member of staff. Accidents are monitored closely to identify any common causes. The manager monitors the provision well. For example, she observes staff regularly and provides guidance to improve their practice and skills. Staff are deployed effectively to ensure that adult-to-child ratios are continuously met and children receive the support they need. Parents spoken to on the day of the inspection are very happy about the service provided.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The staff team works very well together. They provide a relaxed and innovative learning environment where each child is valued. Staff's interaction with children is warm and caring. They sit with children and join in with their play, repeating words to help their understanding and develop their communication and language skills. Staff share skills gained from recent training to enrich children's early literacy skills. Babies and children join in happily with the words and actions to their favourite Christmas songs. Children of all ages develop a love of books and are imaginative in their play. Children enjoy a variety of challenging outdoor experiences to support all areas of learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are very good role models and play alongside children to teach them to understand how to share and take turns. They are very supportive of children and their families, helping children feel settled and secure in the nursery. Staff celebrate children's individual achievements and praise their efforts. This helps to raise their confidence and self-esteem. Mealtimes are happy, social occasions and staff make good use of these opportunities to teach children about the importance of a healthy diet. Staff encourage children's independence skills from an early age. For example, babies and toddlers are encouraged to drink from cups. Older children serve their meals and manage their own personal hygiene routines. Children take part in a variety of events and celebrations, giving them a wider understanding of the world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated, keen to join in and becoming effective learners. Children who require additional support in their learning make good progress, as teaching is focused on their individual needs and interests. Children develop good early reading and writing skills. For example, they explore a range of opportunities to make marks and recognise their names. Children's mathematical understanding is supported as they are learning to count and are able to recognise a range of shapes. Staff place a high emphasis on children's personal development to ensure they are well prepared and acquire the skills they need for future learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY443536
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1078978
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	76
Name of registered person	Alpha Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900801
Date of previous inspection	17 April 2013
Telephone number	01473221700

Bluebells Nursery was registered in 2012. The nursery employs 15 members of childcare staff. Of these, 14 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery is open Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It supports children who speak English as an additional language and those who have special educational needs or disabilities.

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