

The Treehouse Nursery

The Tree House Childrens Centre, 251 Clapgate Lane, IPSWICH IP3 0RH



Inspection date	25 October 2018
Previous inspection date	24 January 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

The provision is good

- The management team has taken effective steps to meet the actions set at the last inspection. For example, the supervision of staff has been significantly improved. The management team has introduced, and embedded, a robust programme of regular supervision for all staff, to effectively manage their performance and practice.
- Staff are committed to working together with parents. Parents are kept well informed about their children's day and are actively encouraged to remain involved in their learning and development.
- Staff know the children well. They talk confidently about where children are in their learning and development and what they need to do to support their continuing progress. Staff are confident to carry through their findings into planning.
- Staff promote children's communication skills effectively. They engage children in conversation, challenge their thinking and give them time to process questions.
- Children are happy and settled. They feel safe and secure in their relationships with staff. Children develop close emotional attachments, confidently seeking out staff for reassurance and to share in their play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not have enough opportunities to develop their mathematical skills and knowledge.
- Children are not consistently supported to develop self-care skills relevant to their age.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more closely on supporting children's developing understanding of number, counting and mathematical concepts
- give children consistent opportunities to learn to do things for themselves and develop self-care skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection and completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and also discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and other records.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection. She also took account of written testimonials.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The management team demonstrates a strong commitment towards achieving excellence. The team has an action plan for improvement in place. This is reviewed regularly to ensure that continuous progress is made to the quality of care and learning for all children. Staff have frequent opportunities to learn from observing the skills of their colleagues to improve their practice, teaching and learning. Professional development is encouraged. Following training staff have developed the learning environment to further support children's social and communication skills. The use of additional funding, such as the early years pupil premium, is monitored to ensure that it is used effectively to narrow gaps in children's achievements. Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a good awareness of the indicators of abuse. They know how to report concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use what they know about the children to plan interesting and stimulating activities that are rooted in their interests. They adapt activities well to enable children to participate at their own level. For example, when children are listening to a well-known story staff are careful to engage and involve all children. They give younger children visual aids to hold from the story sack of props. Older children confidently predict what happens next. Staff engage well with the children and are actively involved in their play. They are led by what children want to do and readily suggest a change of activity when they recognise that children are losing interest. Children benefit from a range of interesting resources, indoors and outside.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a welcoming learning environment in which children are secure and confident to express themselves. Staff implement the key-person system well. In the absence of a child's key-person, a back-up person is identified, helping to ensure that children's individual care and learning needs continue to be met. Testimonials from parents demonstrate the high regard they have for the staff, describing them as 'caring' and 'doing a fantastic job with the children'. Parents appreciate the unwavering support in times of crisis and the 'exceptional lengths' staff go to, to meet children's health needs. Children respond positively to the high expectations of staff. Staff talk to children in a calm and respectful manner, gently reminding them about the need to share and take turns with popular resources.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children develop the key skills needed to be ready for school. They make good progress from their starting points. Children are confident and motivated learners who readily lead their own play. They are helped to form a positive sense of themselves. Children are encouraged to develop positive attitudes to each other and people beyond their own experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY443320
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10080318
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	41
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Alpha Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900801
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2018
Telephone number	01473274440

Treehouse Nursery registered in 2012. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two with qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three and four-year-old children.

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