

Seashore Nursery

Seashore House, Crown Score, Lowestoft, NR32 1JH



Inspection date	6 April 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Leadership and management of the nursery are good. The manager of the nursery works well with the regional manager and the local authority to review the quality of teaching and develop well-targeted improvement plans.
- Parents report that they are involved in their children's learning and receive regular feedback on their progress. Parents of children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities speak highly of the support and guidance provided by staff.
- Teaching is consistently good. The well-qualified staff make regular observations and assessments of children during planned activities and play. They use this information to plan focused next steps in children's learning.
- Children behave well at the nursery and are supported sensitively by staff who gently remind them of the rules, such as using their 'walking feet' inside.
- Children make good progress during their time at the nursery. Younger children show high levels of involvement and enjoyment in the activities they choose. Older children speak clearly in sentences and are learning to count and compare sizes.
- The manager uses the knowledge gained from her level 6 qualification to provide clear guidance and support for staff. She encourages them to attend a wide range of further training and continue to develop their knowledge.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, some staff do not consistently help children to explore ideas and develop their thinking skills to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to help children express their thoughts and explore ideas further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practices indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed children's development records, such as the progress check for children aged between two and three years, and individual education plans.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation procedures with members of the management team and viewed documentation, such as the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and held discussions about the quality of teaching and learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, special educational needs coordinator, staff, children and parents.

Inspector

Helen Hyett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager checks that staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding procedures. For example, she does a quiz during staff meetings to check that staff know the correct procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager is very well organised. She keeps detailed policies which support the good day-to-day running of the nursery. The manager supports staff to check for gaps in children's learning and put plans in place to help them catch up with their peers. Staff speak highly of the support they receive from the manager and room leaders. They receive regular feedback on their teaching and tips on how they can continue to improve their practice. Staff training is well tailored to meet the needs of children. For instance, staff recently attended training on how to support children of all ages to develop the hand control needed to develop early writing skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are very enthusiastic and join in well with children's play. Younger children become highly involved in sensory play with water, sand and shaving foam. Staff share in children's enjoyment and motivate children to learn, for example, as they encourage them to scoop and pour the water. Two-year-old children show good levels of determination during their role play. They concentrate very well as they put nappies on their dolls and teddies and receive praise and encouragement from staff. Older children are well prepared for school. They take part in focused activities where they learn to concentrate, develop their hand-to-eye coordination and improve their mathematical skills. Children focus well as they grasp small toy bears with tweezers and sort them into colours and sizes. They count well up to five and recognise when there are 'two more'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop good relationships with members of staff. They receive reassurance and cuddles when needed. Staff talk to children about healthy foods. For instance, they ask children why milk is good for them and children say it makes them 'big and strong'. Children who have SEN and/or disabilities are supported very well and make good progress with their social skills. For example, they take part in routines, such as sitting with their friends at the table to eat their snack. The manager works in partnership with outside agencies to support children and families. They recognise when children may be eligible for additional funding and support parents through the application process. Staff make good links with local schools. For instance, they share valuable information about children's interests, needs and achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are quickly learning the skills they need for the future. They are confident, interested in their learning and show good levels of development for their ages. Children use their imaginations well. They show good control in their large and small muscles. Children are kind, considerate and play well with their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY498185
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1041209
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 - 6
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	76
Name of registered person	Alpha Nurseries Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP900801
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01502 580017

Seashore Nursery registered in 2016. It is run by Alpha Nurseries Limited. The nursery employs 10 members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including the manager who holds a qualification at level 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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