

Magic Tree Day Nursery

35 Yaxham Road, Dereham, Norfolk, NR19 1HD



Inspection date

3 February 2016

Previous inspection date

2 May 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 provider has made improvements to the nursery since the last inspection. Robust management now maintains good standards. There is drive to improve further. All the relevant documentation is in place to meet legal requirements.
- Staff know each child well and have close bonds with them. The key-person system works effectively to promote children's well-being.
- Information about children's learning is shared with parents using a variety of effective methods. Staff use the knowledge they gain from parents when children first attend to inform them about their learning and development.
- Staff make regular, accurate assessments of children's progress. From this information, activities are carefully planned to help children achieve their next steps in learning.
- Staff provide a variety of interesting activities for children to promote good progress in all of the areas of learning, including their physical development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Younger children and babies are sometimes distracted from their learning when adults and children pass through the baby area to access the area for older children.
- Staff sometimes miss opportunities to help children to develop their ideas further and build on their understanding during conversations about their activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- reduce the risk of distraction for the younger children as they develop their concentration and become immersed in their play and learning activities
- develop the skills of all staff to give children more information about what they are learning to challenge their thinking and promote their deeper understanding.

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 staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with manager, area manager who is also the nominated person and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, including the setting's self-evaluation, records of children's learning and development, a selection of policies and procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with the children.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Kate Hipperson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. There are appropriate procedures in place for staff to follow if they have concerns about the safety of a child. Regular reflection on what the nursery offers includes the views of staff, parents, children and other professionals. A clear action plan is in place to make positive changes over time. Managers regularly assess quality and standards of practice. Recruitment procedures are robust to ensure that suitable people are working with children. There is a programme of professional development and support for staff. They are well trained and all are qualified, or studying towards a qualification. Leaders take into account staff's individual strengths and skills in practice and staff are deployed effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children freely choose the activities they would like to join in with. For example, while some older children draw on a whiteboard in the outdoor area, others participate in small-world play with a farm and animals indoors. Staff are alongside children during their play and interact with them to promote their enjoyment and engagement. Parents are regularly updated on their children's progress through an online system and from written information and verbal communication. Parents' evenings offer the chance to discuss children's progress in more detail. Parents are supported to continue their child's learning at home. Resources are available for them to borrow and use at home. Staff make good use of outings in the local community to promote children's understanding of the wider world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The areas that children use are comfortable and inviting. Interactions between staff are positive, providing children with good role models. Staff are vigilant in ensuring that the physical care needs of children are met at all times. Staff respond intuitively to children's body language and facial expressions. Children are offered comfort and affection as and when they need it. Babies and young children generally receive particularly sensitive care, helping them to develop feelings of security. The social skills of older children are developing well as a result of the clear implementation of boundaries and rules. Staff skilfully guide children to help them get along together during their play. Children take pleasure in their time at the nursery. The home cultures and backgrounds of children who attend the nursery are valued.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are supported to make good progress in their learning. Monitoring effectively identifies where additional work is needed to promote even better outcomes for specific groups of children. Children are developing the key skills they need for their move on to school. Additional funding is used purposefully for each individual child that receives it. Where progress is not at expected levels, appropriate support is swiftly sought.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY314212
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1028371
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 - 5
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	49
Name of provider	Alpha Nurseries Ltd
Date of previous inspection	2 May 2013
Telephone number	01362 694690

Magic Tree Day Nursery was registered in 2006, in East Dereham, Norfolk. It is one of 13 nurseries owned and operated by Alpha Day Nurseries Ltd. The nursery employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. 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. The nursery supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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