

Inspection of Ashbourne Day Nurseries at Wellingborough

41 St. Johns Street, Wellingborough NN8 4LG

Inspection date: 2 June 2025

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Good

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's safety and welfare are compromised. Leaders do not ensure that safeguarding procedures are implemented effectively to ensure all staff working with children are suitable. That said, children show positive relationships with staff. Most children arrive at nursery happily. Staff respond warmly to children who need reassurance, which helps them settle and enjoy their day.

All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), are included and have their needs met. Children access a range of activities that reflect their individual learning needs and interests. Staff provide individual support for each child as they play alongside them and adapt their approach for children's specific level of ability. Children are eager to join in and show sustained interest during outside play. Staff help children's developing physical skills. They show children how to safely use large play equipment and children learn to hold the handrail as they climb up.

Staff successfully plan and implement a well-thought-out curriculum that builds on children's interests and knowledge. Pre-school children have a sustained interest in bees. Staff broaden children's learning as they add further resources and experiences for children to explore. For example, children learn about colours and extend their mathematical knowledge as they explore yellow items and look at shapes, such as hexagons. Children concentrate when staff read a non-fiction book about bees to them. They demonstrate their learning and what they have remembered when they talk about bees having five eyes and that they are pollinators.

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

- Weaknesses in staff implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures do not promote children's safety and welfare. The provider does not ensure that leaders respond appropriately to concerns that arise relating to staff suitability. They allow staff whose ongoing suitability has not been confirmed to work directly with children.
- Overall, leaders have addressed the actions raised at the last inspection. Swift action has been taken to increase the training and coaching for staff. This has improved staff's knowledge and understanding of how to implement the curriculum for each child. Staff demonstrate an increased understanding of how to ensure that children with SEND have effective support that contributes to their learning and progress.
- Staff talk to children as they play, promoting their communication and language skills. Staff model language for children to help develop their vocabulary. For example, staff say 'splash' to describe what toddlers are doing in the water tray

and children repeat the word back as they continue to splash.

- Staff engagement and interactions with children are positive, overall. Staff help children to think about and develop their own ideas and solve problems during play. For example, as children explore wooden blocks to make a road for cars, staff ask if the bridge is high enough for the cars to get underneath. However, sometimes staff's interactions do not consistently build on and extend children's learning.
- Children behave well. Staff help children to develop confidence to cooperate and work together. Children show their friends how to use construction resources to build flowers. They listen to staff when they remind them to share and consider others as they play. Children show sensitivity and respect towards one another, contributing to a calm and harmonious environment.
- Staff encourage all children to be independent. They make appropriate adaptations to ensure all children can develop their self-care skills. Toddlers have sturdy steps at the sinks to help them reach so they can wash their hands. Staff help children serve their own food at mealtimes. Children can choose what they want to do. They help themselves to play materials and enthusiastically get involved in tidying up at the end of the session.
- Staff work closely with all parents. They share individual and detailed information daily with parents about how their children's care needs are met during their session as well as information about the activities they have enjoyed. Staff seek information from parents about children's interests and achievements at home so they can take account of this when planning activities. The close working partnerships contribute to a consistent approach for the children's care and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
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ensure all staff have training to understand and implement safeguarding policies and procedures, particularly in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff	14/07/2025
ensure that all staff who look after children have passed any required checks to confirm their suitability.	10/06/2025

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

- help staff continue to build on their skills to ensure they provide consistently high-quality interactions with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2717827
Local authority	North Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10402044
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	66
Number of children on roll	57
Name of registered person	Ashbourne Day Nurseries Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901058
Telephone number	01908 644399
Date of previous inspection	3 December 2024

Information about this early years setting

Ashbourne Day Nurseries at Wellingborough registered in 2023. It is in Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. Session are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, 12 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The nursery provides government funded places for children aged nine months to four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors

Melanie Eastwell
Claire Muddimer

Inspection activities

- The manager, assistant manager and inspectors completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- Inspectors observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this was having on children's learning.
- The inspectors spoke with the manager, the regional manager and the quality manager about the leadership and management of the nursery.
- The inspectors talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager and discussed the teaching and learning.
- Children spoke to the inspectors during the inspection.
- The inspectors spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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