

Inspection of Angelina's Day Care Ltd

Asset House, 4 East Street, Colchester CO1 2TX

Inspection date:

24 February 2025

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

There are weaknesses in the quality of education in the setting. Leaders and staff have recently introduced a new curriculum prioritising children's happiness and well-being. They plan activities each day based on children's interests. For example, some children wash dolls with soap and water, while others play in the sand with dinosaurs. While children enjoy these activities, there is not enough focus on what leaders want children to learn next. In addition, staff do not fully support children's language development. This means that children, including those who speak English as an additional language, do not make swift enough progress across all areas of their learning.

Despite this, children are happy and settled in this setting. They readily leave their parents in the reception area before going into their classrooms with familiar staff. Each day begins with a group singing session where the welcome song is sung, and each child is greeted by name.

Interactions between staff and children are warm and supportive, which positively contribute to the children's emotional development and sense of security. For instance, babies sit contentedly on staff's laps as they join in with song time. Staff provide praise and encouragement during activities, helping to boost the children's self-esteem and motivation. Overall, children behave appropriately, demonstrating that their needs are being met.

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

- Leaders and staff have worked hard to address the actions set at the last inspection. A professional development programme is in place for staff. They have access to a variety of online training and professional development resources to improve their knowledge and skills further. Staff have developed stronger links with other settings that children attend, to promote a coordinated approach to their care and learning.
- Staff plan opportunities to help promote children's independence. For example, they encourage children to serve their own food during snack and mealtimes and to put on their coats before going outside to the garden. Children learn to manage their self-care needs, such as using the toilet independently. Staff help children to understand the importance of good hygiene practices, including washing their hands before eating.
- Children have daily opportunities to develop their physical skills. They enjoy riding balance bikes in the garden, demonstrating good control. Additionally, children spend time climbing up the steps of a small slide before confidently sliding down. They spend time digging and making marks in the sand.
- Staff regularly observe children to identify what they know and can do. However,

not enough focus is placed on what each child needs to learn next to build on what they already know and can do. For example, when children need to learn to share and take turns, staff do not plan opportunities for them to practise this. As a result, children are not always supported in learning to play cooperatively and take turns with others. This leads to minor disagreements between children.

- Each week, staff introduce a different shape to the children and provide a variety of activities related to that shape. For instance, children use square sponges to print squares on paper. However, much of children's play and learning is led and guided by adults. As a result, some children lose motivation and struggle to stay focused. This does not promote positive attitudes to learning.
- Children enjoy singing familiar songs and rhymes and join in with the actions. For example, they eagerly join in with 'Row, Row, Row Your Boat'. Staff share stories and books with the children throughout the day, supporting the development of their early literacy skills.
- Staff use some strategies to develop children's speech and language, such as repeating key words and asking children questions. However, there are fewer opportunities for children to engage in meaningful conversations or to use new words in different contexts. Consequently, children do not make the best possible progress in their language development.
- Partnerships with parents are positive. Parents feel that their children enjoy coming to the setting and are pleased with their progress. They appreciate the regular updates through the online app that inform them about their children's activities and how to support them at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- plan more precisely for children's individual next steps to enable them to make the best possible progress
- explore further ways in which to help children manage minor conflicts and aid in their understanding of how to share and take turns
- allow more opportunities for children to lead their own play and develop their own ideas during planned activities
- develop staff's knowledge and understanding of language development so that activities and interactions fully promote children's vocabulary and communication skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2780624
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10371027
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	0 to 3
Total number of places	90
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Angelina's Day Care Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2780625
Telephone number	+447392597296
Date of previous inspection	2 September 2024

Information about this early years setting

Angelina's Day Care Ltd registered in 2024 and is located in Colchester. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 or above. The nursery is open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Shelly McDougall

Inspection activities

- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want the children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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