

Acorn Day Nursery, Stanwick



Unit 7, Blands Yard, Church Street, Stanwick, Wellingborough, NN9 6PS

Inspection date	28 September 2015
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

- Children enjoy playing with and exploring a good range of materials and toys. The activities are based on children's interests and the rooms are set out to support their play and learning well. This results in children moving around freely, using their imaginations and making good progress.
- Teaching is good. Children enjoy the positive involvement of the staff in their activities. They show a genuine interest in what children are doing and encourage them to play and explore, asking well-placed questions that contribute to their learning.
- Children benefit from daily opportunities to play outside. The organisation of the nursery means that they are able to safely take part in a wide range of outdoor activities that cover all the areas of learning.
- Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and for moving on to school. They are learning to be independent, to make choices and to share and work together.
- Children enjoy a variety of meals, snacks and drinks that are freshly prepared to meet their individual dietary needs and stages of development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not make the most of opportunities during activities to extend children's interest and curiosity.
- Sometimes, the staff are not consistent in their role modelling of social expectations to enable children to form positive relationships with adults and other children.

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 that arise to continue to further children's interest and discussions
- extend children's understanding of how to develop positive relationships around social expectations between adults and children.

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 completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the nursery manager and with three members of staff. She looked at relevant documentation, such as policies, procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Melanie Eastwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The commitment to team working and support for staff to increase their confidence and knowledge through training has a positive impact on the children attending the nursery. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Thorough risk assessments are in place for all aspects of the nursery, including the wide variety of daily outings that involve the children. Robust recruitment procedures ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have a clear understanding of how to keep children safe and how to promote their welfare. The management team show a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and how to implement this for all children. Effective monitoring of children's progress and staff performance results in every child having their needs met and making good progress in their learning. Parents make complimentary comments about the experiences they and their children receive at the nursery and how approachable and supportive the staff are.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy their activities and are keen to take part because the staff ensure the planning is led by children's interests. They check on what children can do, recognising when they require adaptations to activities to help them make the best progress they can. Staff mostly guide children effectively in their play, demonstrating how things work and making suggestions to enhance what they are doing. However, occasionally when children show interest and curiosity during activities, staff do not extend this in order to further enhance their learning. Staff prioritise children's communication and language skills. They give them opportunities to consider their responses to questions and to share their ideas and opinions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and confident in the nursery. They are able to settle in when they start attending because staff work closely with their parents. Children benefit from daily outings where they can develop their physical skills in a variety of different environments. Their independence and self-care skills are encouraged and gradually built upon by the staff as they get older. Children are learning about the setting's expectations for their behaviour through discussions with the staff, resulting in children responding positively to staff's gentle reminders about being kind to others and taking care of the toys. However, occasionally younger children are not consistently provided with good role models that contribute to their awareness of how to form sensitive and positive relationships with others.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress. Their individual care and learning needs are managed well by the staff who respond positively to their changing needs. Babies and toddlers are dealt with gently and sensitively and older children are supported to challenge themselves to try new experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481831
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1027632
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	55
Name of provider	Acorn Childcare 2
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01908 510309

Acorn Day Nursery, Stanwick, was registered in 2014 and is managed by Acorn Childcare 2. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold appropriate early years qualifications between levels 2 and 6, including one with Qualified Teacher Status. 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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