

Abingdon Little Angels

Cricket Field Morland Road, Marcham, Abingdon, OX13 6PY



Inspection date

29 January 2015

Previous inspection date

11 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are confident and self-assured. Close and trusting relationships with their key person and other staff make them feel safe and secure.
- Children benefit from weekly visits into the community, such as toddler groups and the local caf. This allows them to have varied and exciting learning opportunities.
- Safeguarding and site security are a priority in the nursery. Technology, such as finger print entry systems, helps keep children safe.
- Staff plan activities that reflect children's interests and keep them engaged. As a result, children make good progress in their learning.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported. This is due to the close working relationships with other professionals, such as the staff at the local special school. This results in children receiving cohesive and well-coordinated support.
- The setting has effective partnerships with parents and this supports children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Assessment information currently identifies children's progress and gaps in learning. However, this information is not used to be able to reflect on specific groups, or to compare the rates of progress of different cohorts of children.
- Staff miss some opportunities to enhance children's literacy development, for example through the use of print in the garden.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further evaluation of assessments on children, to be able to reflect on whole group progress such as children with special educational needs, more able children and other specific groups
- develop the range of signs and labels in the outdoor learning environment, to enhance children's awareness that print carries meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during free play and in group times, and staff interactions with them.
- The inspector sampled documents including policies, registers and on-line records of children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers and took into account their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and the two managers conducted a joint observation.

Inspector

Natasha Crellin

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff plan activities that reflect children's interests and stages of development. The routine is flexible and staff are quick to follow children's interests. Children start their own games, hiding plastic bugs in the garden. Staff support this by finding magnifying glasses and encouraging children to take turns. This develops children's play and helps them to concentrate on their game for an extended period. The setting is well resourced and children confidently find the things they want. Toys stored in baskets on the floor and on low shelves, such as rattles and books, allow babies to access them. This encourages independence and helps them develop coordination to walk and propel themselves. Regular outings into the community, such as local toddler groups, allow children to have a broad balance of learning experiences. Observations on children's progress are recorded on a software system. Parents access this information from home via a password. This ensures they have frequent feedback about the progress of their child. Assessments are robust and help identify gaps in individual children's learning, although they are not used to reflect on the progress of specific groups of children. Children's literacy development is promoted through the use of a comfortable book area and well-resourced writing table indoors; however, the outdoor area is not used as well to enhance children's awareness of print.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children demonstrate close relationships with staff and their peers. They are confident and feel secure in the nursery because staff give priority to supporting their emotional needs. Parents are happy with the care their children receive and they feel communication is clear and consistent. Children learn about healthy lifestyles as they enjoy nutritious meals, such as scrambled egg on toast. Staff encourage children to use good manners and to socialise. Children learn to become independent in their dressing, toileting and eating. These skills prepare them for the move up to school.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The management team has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and supports the staff team to be reflective of their teaching practice. Staff are all involved in leading an area of the curriculum. This creates a team whose members are empowered and who actively contribute to the setting's effectiveness. Regular supervision of staff and frequent training opportunities ensure they are constantly improving their practice. The manager takes responsibility for child protection and has attended specialist training to support this role. All staff know the procedure to follow if they have concerns about a child in their care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY361920
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	835466
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	46
Number of children on roll	81
Name of provider	Helen Scott-Corcoran
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2011
Telephone number	07516 474 287

Abingdon Little Angels registered in 2007. It operates from premises set in the grounds of Anson Field, in Marcham, near Abingdon in Oxfordshire. The setting provides childcare, a breakfast club, after school club and a holiday play scheme. There is a fully enclosed outside play area for the nursery. Children attending the out of school club have supervised access to the public field surrounding the premises. The setting is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently 38 children in the early years age group. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years of age. It is open from 8am until 5.30pm Monday to Friday, all year round. The holiday play scheme operates between 8am and 5.30pm and is open during each school holiday. The breakfast club and after school club operate from 8am until the start of the school day and from 3pm until 5.30pm on weekdays, during term time only. The setting currently supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who learn English as an additional language. It employs seven staff to work with the children. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including one who holds Early Years Professional Status.

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