

Abacus Day Nursery

6/8 Emery Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 5PF



Inspection date

14 May 2015

Previous inspection date

13 October 2010

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

- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They provide a range of exciting activities with appropriate challenge, which ensure children make good progress across all areas of learning.
- Children form good attachments and settle quickly as staff take the time to get to know the children well, which helps them to feel safe and secure.
- Staff work well together as a team. They have a firm commitment to sustaining continuous improvement through rigorous self-evaluation.
- Staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding issues. They know the steps to take if they have any concerns about a child in their care. This promotes children's welfare.
- Staff build strong partnerships with parents. They implement an effective two-way flow of information sharing to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not manage noise levels effectively during small group activities to ensure children do not get distracted and are able to fully engage with the activity.
- Staff do not make the best use of the babies' sleep room to promote further babies' sense of belonging and emotional well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of focus group time to enable children to fully engage in purposeful activity, by positioning groups with care and consideration for noise levels
- consider how to make a more home-from-home environment for the babies' sleep room to promote further their sense of belonging and emotional well-being.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents, the manager and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation and discussed the suitability and qualifications of staff and the self-evaluation processes.
- The inspector observed children playing and staff's interactions with them, indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Tracey Hicks

Inspection findings

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

Overall, the quality of teaching is good. Staff have high expectations of all children. Staff work closely with parents from the outset to gain knowledge about their children to plan children's learning. Ongoing planning and assessment for children's development mean that children progress well and are well prepared for their move between rooms, and on to school. Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They provide enjoyable learning experiences based on children's interests. For example, staff created a travel agent role play area for older children to support children going on holiday. Babies explored the colours and textures of paint during a mark making activity. Children are engaged in purposeful activities. For example, they enjoyed an outing to the local woods where they played games and took part in a forest walk and treasure hunt.

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

Staff provide safe and well- resourced indoor and outdoor play areas. Staff teach children about different countries and cultures, which promotes their understanding of individual differences in the wider world. Children develop confidence and benefit from free access to a broad range of toys and experiences. Staff encourage children to be independent and teach them to manage their own personal hygiene. For example, children learn why they wash their hands before snack, and younger children enjoy singing the 'wash our hands' song. Children's behaviour is good as staff take the time to set clear boundaries. Staff promote children's understanding of healthy lifestyles well. Children and babies gain daily fresh air playing energetically outside. Children have access to fresh drinking water and staff promote healthy eating through carefully chosen menus.

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

Staff have a good understanding of the requirements. All staff have attended safeguarding training and have a high regard for keeping children safe. Effective supervision ensures that staff's professional development is carefully monitored to continuously improve the quality of teaching. Staff check children's progress to identify gaps in learning and provide additional support as required. Staff seek advice from other professionals, such as speech and language therapists, and attend regular training to develop their skills. For example, staff recently attended a course on sign language, which they have subsequently introduced to the children. This is having a positive impact on children's communication skills. Self-evaluation takes into account the views of staff, parents and children. Staff share their ideas regularly, focusing on areas for improvement. For example, they recognised the need to strengthen provision for mathematics throughout the nursery and are in the process of implementing this. Parents speak highly of the nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106892
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	839448
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	84
Number of children on roll	181
Name of provider	Myrtle Tree Holdings Ltd
Date of previous inspection	13 October 2010
Telephone number	0117 9772868

Abacus Day Nursery registered in 1996. It is one of two nurseries run by the registered person. It operates from a two-storey converted building in Brislington, Bristol. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8am to 6pm, except for Bank Holidays and the Christmas and New Year period. A holiday club operates for school aged children under eight years old. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged three and four years. The nursery employs 21 members of staff who work directly with the children. The manager is supernumerary. Of these, 17 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery employs a cook and a cleaner.

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