

# The Oxford Nursery Summertown



Marston Ferry Road, Summertown, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 7EE

<b>Inspection date</b>	11 June 2015
Previous inspection date	6 January 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- Staff fail to identify risks to babies and toddlers as they arise. Lack of effective supervision puts children at possible risk of harm.
- Staff do not supervise children adequately at lunchtime. As a result, babies' safety is compromised, children's behaviour is poor and mealtimes are noisy, messy and chaotic.
- There are procedures to monitor sleeping babies. However, staff do not adhere to these. This means sleeping babies are not frequently checked, as required.
- Staff do not adhere to the new safeguarding procedures put in place to help ensure staff and children are safe during nappy changing.
- The quality of teaching is poor. Staff do not consistently assess children's progress and do not use assessment to plan meaningful activities which are appropriate for children's ages and stages of development. This results in children not being engaged sufficiently in their learning.
- Staff use a limited range of ways to support children's language and mathematical development. Children's progress in these areas of learning is particularly poor.
- Children do not receive the care and attention they need in the absence of their key person. Staff fail to recognise the need for someone else to take responsibility for children when their key person is unavailable.

### It has the following strengths

- Children have daily access to the outdoors and enjoy a range of activities that help them develop their physical skills.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

### **The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take the following enforcement action:**

We will issue a welfare requirements notice that requires the provider to:

ensure staff are constantly vigilant of risks to babies and toddlers to make sure that hazards, such as plastic bags, thumb tacks, rubbish and unsuitable furniture, are identified quickly and removed or minimised

ensure that sleeping babies are monitored frequently

deploy staff effectively so that babies are supervised closely when they are eating

implement effective safeguarding procedures to protect children and staff, with particular regard to nappy changing arrangements.

### **To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:**

- make regular observations to accurately assess where children are in their learning and use information gathered to plan activities that reflect children's interests and build on what they already know and can do
- improve the supervision of children during mealtimes to ensure children do not share food or put their feet on the table, and ensure their behaviour is appropriate
- ensure staff promote children's mathematical development effectively by making good use of everyday learning experiences and routines to introduce children to counting, shape recognition, problem-solving and other mathematical ideas
- promote children's language development by using a variety of teaching techniques to help children acquire speaking and listening skills
- ensure the needs and interests of children are known by more than one member of staff, to make sure that children's individual care and learning needs are met in the event that their key person is absent.

**To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:**

- ensure children are kept safe from harm (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure the equipment used for childcare is safe and suitable (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all steps necessary to ensure the health and safety of the children on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a suitable manner, especially at mealtimes (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure children are kept safe from harm (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure the equipment used for childcare is safe and suitable (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- take all steps necessary to ensure the health and safety of the children on the premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a suitable manner, especially at mealtimes (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

**Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed children as they played freely, during group times and at mealtimes, and observed staff interactions with them.
- The inspector sampled documents, including policies, attendance registers, risk assessments and safeguarding documentation.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and took into account their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector, the manager and the deputy manager 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 inadequate**

Staff do not adequately support children to develop their language skills. Staff are frequently loud around children, shouting requests and instructions. Children mimic this and the nursery environment is noisy and chaotic. Staff do not promote children's development in mathematics effectively. Poor teaching means children are not motivated to learn. Children have daily opportunities to practise their physical skills in the garden. They develop arm strength as they dig in the beach area and enjoy playing running games. This helps to develop their coordination and strength. Children enjoy mixing mud 'pies' and 'potions' in the mud kitchen, developing their curiosity and engagement in the natural world.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is inadequate**

Staff are unable to identify or manage safety risks, especially in relation to hazards to babies and toddlers. Inappropriate and dangerous items, such as rubbish, plastic bags, thumb tacks and wobbly furniture, pose a hazard to children. Staff fail to see children wandering off from their group. For example, a toddler left a group and entertained themselves by playing with a discarded plastic bag. Children are served healthy meals and snacks prepared in the nursery. However, mealtime routines are haphazard and children are not adequately supervised. This means children share each other's food, which poses a risk to those with allergies. Children put their feet and shoes on the table, which is unhygienic and does not teach children appropriate social skills. Babies are left in a row of highchairs to feed themselves without any direct supervision from staff. Staff have had safeguarding training. However, they do not heed the advice of safeguarding professionals and fail to implement procedures designed to protect children and staff, for example, when they change nappies. They also fail to follow procedures to check sleeping babies and do not have monitoring devices in working order. While policies to protect children and staff are well-considered, these are not implemented in practice. Staff training is not effective. Staff do not understand their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate**

The manager has identified some weaknesses in staff practice through supervision meetings and observation. However, she has not taken action to raise the quality of care and teaching. The management team demonstrates limited capacity to improve. They lack understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements and fail to implement the learning and development requirements successfully. Planning does not reflect children's interests or stages of development and the quality of teaching is poor. Children with gaps in their learning are not identified. Some positive steps are taken to help prepare children for their move to school. Partnerships with parents are adequate.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY266376
<b>Local authority</b>	Oxfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	833277
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	44
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	89
<b>Name of provider</b>	Acacia Care and Education Ltd
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	6 January 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01865 316602

The Oxford Nursery Summertown opened in 2003. It is situated in the city of Oxford. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 52 weeks of the year, excluding bank holidays. The setting is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education to children aged two, three and four years old. The nursery employs 13 staff; of these, eight hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager holds a foundation degree in early years.

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