

Little Acorns Day Nursery

Lockhart Road, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 2AX



Inspection date

14 August 2015

Previous inspection date

23 February 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		Outstanding	1
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 very good relationships with the children. Children form exceptionally strong attachments with staff, who meet their individual needs extremely well.
- Staff organise a broad range of well-planned activities across the nursery for all children, indoors and outdoors. This supports children to make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children are articulate, confident and gain very good independence during their play and interactions with each other and with staff. This is because staff support them well during daily routines and activities.
- The management and leadership have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities to safeguard children. They ensure all staff follow safe working practices and policies exceptionally well to keep children safe, including in the event of any child protection concerns.
- Highly positive staff support children to follow extremely good hygiene routines. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals, and have regular access to outside space for physical exercise, which promotes their good health very well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of using technology during children's play and activities to extend their learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve opportunities for children to use technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of the teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and the provider, and looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents at the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Claire Meyer

Inspection findings

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

The well-qualified staff team use their skills well to ensure children freely access resources that help them develop independence based on their interests. Young children excitedly explore books, sensory toys and building blocks. Staff are nearby and offer support and make good use of opportunities to repeat children's language and introduce new words. As a result, children make good progress in their communication skills. Staff introduce mathematical concepts during children's play, for example, when children build with the blocks, staff encourage them to count. They actively encourage children to solve problems by asking questions that get children to think about what will happen next. Staff regularly exchange information with parents about their children's achievements, meaning they can support their children's learning at home. Effective planning and staff interaction prepares children well for future learning and moving on to school

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

Throughout the nursery, there are exceptional arrangements to care for children, which supports their well-being extremely positively. Babies new to the nursery settle very quickly and explore the environment at their pace. Excellent and consistent staffing arrangements means children are very familiar with key staff and readily seek them out for comfort. Daily care practices, such as nappy changing and feeding, carried out by the children's key persons, support children's emotional security and their self-esteem very well. Staff are extremely good role models and help the younger ones understand how to share and take turns. This helps children to form very positive and strong attachments with their friends and quickly understand what behaviour is acceptable.

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

The leadership team have a secure knowledge of the learning requirements and are clear about keeping children safe. They regularly review, update and improve all policies and procedures to achieve the highest level of security and safety for children. The leadership team are committed to promoting good-quality provision for children. Systems to evaluate what is working and what needs to improve are successful. Room leaders regularly seek the views of the children and use their ideas to plan effectively. All staff keep a close check on their key children to monitor their progress. Effective partnerships with other agencies involved in the care of children helps to maintain continuity for children in, and away from, the nursery. Effective systems for planning and assessment result in children having good-quality care and learning experiences. Effective staff supervision and training opportunities allows staff to develop their skills and share their new ideas and learning at regular staff meetings, promoting consistency amongst the team.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY286027
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	837507
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	57
Number of children on roll	76
Name of provider	Emily Clare Towers
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2010
Telephone number	01932 864675

Little Acorns Day Nursery registered in 2004 and operates from four rooms within the grounds of St Andrews School, Cobham in Surrey. The setting is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure, enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery supports children who are learning English as an additional language and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The setting employs 15 members of staff. Of these, 13 hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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