

Little Acorns Pre School Nursery



St Georges Church, Front Street, EAST BOLDON, Tyne and Wear, NE36 0SW

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| Inspection date | 23 September 2015 |
| Previous inspection date | 12 February 2015 |

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Requires Improvement | 3 |
| 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

- The quality of teaching is consistently good. Staff provide a wide range of resources and experiences which they base around children's interests and learning needs. As a result, children make good progress in all areas of their learning and development.
- The management team and staff have worked hard to successfully address identified weaknesses. They are determined and focused on driving up the quality of standards at the setting through an effective programme of continuous development.
- Children's well-being is well supported because staff have established strong relationships with parents. The opinions of children and their families are valued and continually considered when evaluating the performance of the nursery.
- Staff place a high emphasis on helping all children develop their communication skills. They listen carefully to what children have to say and regularly model speech and new words. This gives children plenty of opportunities to develop their own speech and vocabulary.
- High priority is given to promoting children's emotional well-being and it is clear they feel happy and secure at the nursery. Staff are kind, caring and receptive to children's reactions and feelings, and welcoming and supportive to families.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always give parents precise information about their child's stage of development when discussing their progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance information sharing with parents about children's achievements, progress and stage of development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the support for children's learning and the quality of teaching both inside and outside.
- The inspector talked to staff about the nursery's policies and procedures and what action they would take if they had any concerns about a child's safety and welfare.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation on the quality of teaching with the nursery manager.
- The inspector talked to parents who were available on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of written records, including confirmation that staff have been checked to work with children, staff's training files and records to check that all children are making progress in their learning and development.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team and staff are well qualified. They use their knowledge well to implement the statutory and other government requirements. Safeguarding arrangements are effective and managers ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff are fully aware of how to protect children and clearly understand what they need to do if they have concerns. There are good opportunities for staff to develop their skills through regular supervision and training. This enables them to improve their professional knowledge and skills. The management team have a clear understanding of the setting's strengths and areas for improvement. They closely monitor the progress of all children. This ensures that all children make good progress and any gaps in their learning are quickly closing. Staff work closely with the local nursery school that children move on to.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff promote children's communication skills especially well. They actively join in with children's play and ask carefully considered questions. This helps sustain children's interest and promotes a positive attitude towards their learning. Children play with sand and water and learn about textures. Staff use these activities well to effectively help children learn about mathematical concepts, such as 'full' and 'empty'. Children develop curiosity as they explore and investigate sensory materials. They show a great interest in technology, operating music players and hand-held devices independently. Staff carry out regular observations to assess children's abilities and check their progress. This information, along with their secure knowledge of the children's current interests, is used to plan for each individual child's needs. Parents receive information regarding the activities their children have enjoyed in the nursery. However, staff do not always tell parents about their child's stage of development during their otherwise accurate and regular feedback about children's progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are welcomed in a stimulating and nurturing setting where their emotional and physical needs are well met. They form strong bonds with their key person who consistently promotes their confidence and social skills. This means that children are well prepared for school. Children are familiar with the routines and this contributes to their good behaviour and strong sense of belonging. They develop good levels of independence. Staff encourage them to put on their coat, pour their own drinks and access toys and resources independently. Children regularly use the outdoor area. They learn about their local community during outings and visit the local park.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points because staff know how to promote their learning and development successfully. Children are enthusiastic learners, who are keen to engage in a range of appropriately challenging activities. They acquire the skills and disposition needed for their next stage in learning and for school.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY441209 |
| Local authority | South Tyneside |
| Inspection number | 1008627 |
| Type of provision | Sessional provision |
| Day care type | Childcare - Non-Domestic |
| Age range of children | 2 - 5 |
| Total number of places | 26 |
| Number of children on roll | 9 |
| Name of provider | Little Acorns Pre School Nursery Partnership |
| Date of previous inspection | 12 February 2015 |
| Telephone number | 07818422343 |

Little Acorns Pre School Nursery was registered in 2012. The nursery employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 6, one at level 4 and three at level 3. The nursery opens Monday to Thursday, term time. Sessions are from 9am to 12 noon.

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