Appletree Day Nursery

44 College Hill Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 7HE



Inspection date	23 March 2016
Previous inspection date	21 April 2015

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and man	nagement	Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assess	sment	Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching and learning is exceptional. Staff have high expectations of all children and ensure teaching is consistently high quality and offers outstanding challenge. Children make excellent progress from their starting points.
- Leadership and management of the nursery are inspirational. The manager and the staff team have worked extremely hard to meet the action and recommendations set at the last inspection. This has had an extremely positive bearing on all aspects of children's care, learning and development.
- The children are extremely poised and self-confident in the nursery. The highly stimulating environment forms a strong base for children to explore and learn. Babies and children form exceptionally strong bonds and emotional attachments to the staff. The children gain a highly positive sense of well-being and belonging.
- Staff give an extremely high value to the contributions that parents make to their children's learning. Parents are proactive in sharing information on their children's learning at home, which significantly contributes to how the staff meet the learning and welfare needs of the children. Parents hold the nursery in high regard.
- A superb dedication to precise self-evaluation results in staff implementing extremely successful action plans across the nursery. They work hard to ensure that ongoing improvements benefit all children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

 continue to build on the already excellent partnerships with parents, particularly to strengthen further their involvement in assessments, to raise children's learning to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff's interaction with children, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector talked to parents, staff and children, and held regular discussions with the manager.
- The inspector examined documentation, including a representative sample of children's records, development plans and staff records.
- The inspector discussed with the manager how the action and recommendations set at the last inspection were addressed and met.

Inspector

Julie Biddle

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff complete relevant training and fully understand their role in protecting children. They know what to do if they have any child protection concerns. Staff implement an excellent system of high quality and precise observation and assessment to identify where children are in their learning. The manager regularly updates this system, although opportunities to involve parents further in this process are still ongoing. Exciting and challenging learning experiences significantly inspire the children to learn and make excellent progress. Thorough recruitment processes ensure that new staff are suitable to work with children. The manager is highly committed to the monitoring of staff practice. She ensures that staff have wide-ranging opportunities to attend training, which has had a positive impact, particularly in supporting staff to deliver the highest quality of teaching and care, for the benefit of the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide activities that are challenging but achievable, which enables children to remain confident and extremely motivated to learn. Staff use exemplary methods to help children to use and understand language. For example, they skilfully ask children what they think airmail stickers are used for and give children time to think and reply. Staff use every opportunity as a learning experience. For example, when a group of children complete a jigsaw, staff compliment them on great teamwork, which fosters their self-esteem. Children delight at the opportunities to play outdoors and effectively use their physical skills, such as to dig holes for planting. Babies enjoy using their own outdoor space, where they can explore the environment safely with excellent staff support.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff deployment is highly successful. They work together as a strong team, complementing each other's skills. Children are completely safe and secure. They make highly confident choices about their play and learning. The key-person system works extremely well in supporting children's social and emotional well-being. Staff comfort babies and provide them with a secure base if they become unsure of themselves. Children develop a very positive sense of themselves and others. Through practical activities, children learn how to share and respect others. Children value themselves and others and share special events in their own lives. Staff are extremely effective at supporting children's growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children's learning is impressive and they make excellent progress from their starting points. Children are very independent and self-assured. They have excellent social skills and are highly equipped for the next stages in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY290042

Local authority Harrow

Inspection number 1013461

Type of provision Full-time provision

Day care typeChildcare - Non-Domestic

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 1 - 4

Total number of places 30

Number of children on roll 44

Name of provider Apple Tree Day Nursery (UK) Limited

Date of previous inspection 21 April 2015

Telephone number 02084160478 Mob 07940784970

Apple Tree Day Nursery registered in 2004. It is situated in the London Borough of Harrow. It is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, throughout the year. The provider employs nine members of staff; of these, one holds Qualified Teacher Status, eight hold relevant qualifications and one is currently working towards a relevant qualification. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years.

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