

# Acorns - BP

Meadhurst Club, Chertsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, TW16 7LN



## Inspection date

17 May 2016

Previous inspection date

15 June 2011

| <b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b> | <b>This inspection:</b> | <b>Outstanding</b> | <b>1</b> |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
|   | Previous inspection:    | Outstanding        | 1        |
| Effectiveness of the leadership and management                |                         | Outstanding        | 1        |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment                  |                         | Outstanding        | 1        |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare                   |                         | Outstanding        | 1        |
| Outcomes for children   |                         | Outstanding        | 1        |

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- Managers have an exceptionally thorough knowledge of how to safeguard children and manage any concerns that staff may have about children's welfare or safety.
- Staff are extremely well trained in childhood health, first aid, and in nurturing positive behaviour in children of all ages. They supervise children diligently to keep them safe.
- Children make excellent levels of progress in their learning and development. Room teams know children exceptionally well, celebrate their daily achievements, and plan exciting opportunities for them to investigate and master new skills.
- Staff are extremely attentive in supporting children who have special educational needs. For example, they work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure children make excellent progress from their unique starting points.
- Parents greatly appreciate the range of ways that staff share information with them. They say that this helps them to know how to link with and extend their children's play and learning.
- Children quickly learn how to care for themselves and their environment, for example, as they use knives, move between areas of the nursery or recycle materials. Staff use the company safety mascot, 'Candy Floss', to great advantage.
- Staff work closely with parents, for instance, as they use purposely designed programmes to nurture children's skills in reading, writing and mathematics in the run up to school entry. Staff prepare children extremely well for their move to school.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore and prepare further creative ways to use local outdoor environments to extend children's understanding of the natural world and the community around them.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a wide range of activities and care routines across the large indoor and outdoor play areas. She talked with staff and children about what they were doing.
- The inspector reviewed documents relating to safeguarding, staff recruitment and self-evaluation, and checked a selection of other policies.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including children's records and progress checks. She reviewed how the nursery's planning linked with children's next steps in learning and outcomes.
- The inspector took account of the views of many parents spoken to on the day, reviewed how information is shared with parents and reviewed information from parents' questionnaires.
- The inspector observed various small group activities and undertook a joint observation with the deputy manager.

### Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

Safeguarding is effective. The leadership team ensures that staff diligently implement an extensive range of policies, procedures and daily practices to protect children and keep them safe. Managers use self-evaluation exceptionally well to target areas for improvement to meet the changing needs of the children and to sustain outstanding outcomes. New monitoring procedures enable managers to analyse and track the rate of children's progress in different areas of their learning and development. They use these to identify and help groups of children and individuals who need additional teaching and nurturing to make outstanding levels of progress.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

Nursery and regional managers tailor staff supervision and continued professional development to ensure that teaching is highly effective and responsive to children's individual needs. For example, inspiring staff study how babies' brains develop, and they create innovative ways to stimulate their curiosity and communication skills. Recent training in supporting equality and diversity across the nursery embraces the high proportion of children with dual nationality and languages. Children, for example, have the opportunity to learn French and gain the confidence to count and sing rhymes in other languages. Staff create wonderfully enticing and varied play areas where children quickly become absorbed in imaginative and purposeful play. Children's behaviour is superb.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

The nursery chef works closely with children, parents and key staff to settle children into the nursery. She is, for example, particularly skilled in working with parents to wean babies, establish healthy eating and adapt recipes to suit children's allergies. Children form exceptionally warm and secure emotional attachments to their key staff and room teams. They rapidly gain confidence in exploring new physical challenges such as throwing and catching netballs, riding and scooting. Children thoroughly enjoy using their courtyard garden to dig, plant and play. Staff also take children into the surrounding recreational grounds. However, they do not always use these trips very imaginatively.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

Children of all ages thrive in the happy learning environments that the capable staff create for them. Babies and toddlers are inquisitive and determined to investigate new toys, places and experiences. Two-year-olds learn to cooperate as, for example, they act out their experiences, sing new rhymes and learn to cross roads safely. Older children practise drawing lines with rulers and their early writing skills in exercise books as they chat to staff about the excitement of forthcoming moves to school. Children make excellent levels of progress at this vibrant and exceptionally effective nursery.

## Setting details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                   | 160622  |
| <b>Local authority</b>                           | Surrey  |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                         | 987848  |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                         | Full-time provision   |
| <b>Day care type</b>                             | Childcare - Non-Domestic  |
| <b>Registers</b>                                 | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Age range of children</b>                     | 1 - 5   |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                    | 50  |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                | 57  |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                 | Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited  |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b> | RP901358  |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>               | 15 June 2011  |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                          | 01932 503 081   |

Acorns Nursery registered in 2001. It is managed by Bright Horizons Family Solutions and provides full day care to the children of employees on the BP Sunbury site in Surrey. The nursery operates from 8am to 6pm each weekday, all year round. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three and four years. There are 20 staff, 17 of whom hold qualifications ranging from level 3 to qualified teacher status. The nursery chef also works directly with children and their families.

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