

Apple Tree Montessori Nursery

Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road, HARROW, Middlesex, HA1 3PP



Inspection date

20 May 2016

Previous inspection date

11 October 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	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

- Leaders and staff have worked effectively to develop all aspects of the provision since the last inspection. They use self-evaluation well to review practice and set targets for improvement. Staff are motivated and continually seek ways to maintain and enhance the good quality of teaching and care they provide.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary and they benefit from highly effective guidance from staff. They show excellent care and consideration for each other and share their resources extremely well. Staff promote children's personal development and well-being exceptionally well.
- Staff plan a wide range of interesting and challenging activities. They carry out robust checks on children's development to address any learning needs. All children make good progress.
- Staff share detailed information with parents about their children's achievements. Parents report that they highly value the role of the key person, particularly in providing them with ideas to support their children's learning further at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, some staff intervene too quickly before allowing children enough time to consider their questions and provide a response.
- Staff organisation of some group sessions, do not precisely match children's individual needs and abilities, to help them benefit fully from the experience.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of some large group times, in particular to precisely match the needs and interests of younger children
- allow children more time to think and respond to questions, to help them express their views and ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities, both indoors and outside.
- The inspectors spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the day and held discussions with the manager and nominated person.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, information about the nursery's self-evaluation, evidence of suitability of staff and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Recruitment and vetting processes are robust and staff are vigilant and well deployed to help ensure children's safety. Managers monitor children's development regularly to identify any gaps in their learning quickly and to seek further support, if necessary. Additionally, they monitor staff performance well, in order to help continually raise the quality of teaching and children's outcomes. For example, staff regularly attend mentoring sessions and team meetings, and undertake observations of each other's practice. The qualified staff are proactive with regard to their professional development. For example, they seek out a variety of training opportunities. Effective partnerships with external agencies help staff to provide tailored support for children who need extra help.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use information from children's assessments to plan opportunities for children to develop their skills, including their language. For example, staff follow children's lead and interests during conversations and model language effectively, while supporting those children who are learning to speak English as an additional language to make good progress. Older children show sustained interest and engage in their play and learning. Staff promote children's creative skills well. For example, younger children use paint to make drawings and older children become engrossed in creating detailed models from dough. Children progress well and develop valuable skills for their future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The caring staff team builds extremely strong bonds with children to help promote their emotional well-being. For example, all children demonstrate a real strong sense of belonging and respond well to the close interactions from staff. Children are extremely happy, engaged and show high levels of independence. For example, older children enjoy cutting up their own fruit and younger children willingly tidy up. Children's physical health and well-being receive high priority. Children thoroughly enjoy an excellent variety of opportunities to be physically active outdoors and benefit from regularly accessing the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are sociable and develop the skills that they need in readiness for starting school. For example, they persist with their activities, such as riding bikes, and learn to identify and write the letters of their names. Children's mathematical skills are developing well. For example, they learn to count and sort numbers, and make simple calculations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY444921
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1028032
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	36
Name of registered person	Apple Tree Day Nursery (UK) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900932
Date of previous inspection	11 October 2012
Telephone number	07940 784970

Apple Tree Montessori Nursery registered 2012. The nursery is situated in the London Borough of Harrow. It opens Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6pm, all year round, except during some bank holidays. There are five members of staff working with the children. All staff hold relevant childcare qualifications ranging from level 2, 3 and 6.

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