

Abacus Day Nursery

30 Claremont Road, MORECAMBE, Lancashire, LA4 4HL



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16 August 2016

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 management and staff team demonstrate a strong commitment for continuing to develop and enhance the nursery provision and the already good service provided for children, parents and carer's. Self-evaluation is effectively used to identify their strengths and areas for improvement.
- Overall, the quality of teaching is good. The performance management arrangements to supervise and support all staff members are sharply focused on continuing to raise the quality of teaching and to identify further training needs.
- Children enjoy themselves and have fun while learning. The transition process is highly effective in preparing children for their move on to school. Children are confident, enthusiastic and highly motivated as they participate in challenging activities that promote their independence and provide them with the life skills they require.
- Staff work exceptionally well with parents, the local schools and lead professionals to support children. They share information that helps to ensure that children receive continuity in their care and learning, and additional support when required. Parents comment that they are very happy with the care and teaching offered to their children.
- Children behave well and play harmoniously together. They show care and respect for each other and learn to share toys and take turns during their play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager does not always make full use of monitoring the environment and planned activities to identify any areas of the curriculum that may not be as well promoted as others to support children's progress.
- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to help further develop children's speech and language skills during conversations.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further the monitoring of the environment and planned activities to ensure all areas of learning, including understanding the world, are effectively promoted to help children make continuous progress in their learning and development
- strengthen the already good processes in place for helping to further develop children's speech and language during conversations.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a tour of the whole nursery.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at all relevant documentation, such as the policies and procedures, children's records, self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a group of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management and staff implement a set of robust policies and procedures to ensure the smooth running of the nursery. They attend safeguarding training and demonstrate a thorough understanding of what to do if they are concerned about any child in their care. The management regularly seeks the views of parents, staff and children when reviewing the quality of the provision. Staff are well qualified and experienced. Secure recruitment and induction procedures ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The management and staff maintain a safe environment, ensuring that risks are minimised throughout the nursery and on outings. Effective partnerships with other professionals are well established to meet children's needs. Parents comment positively about the care and learning provided for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff listen to the children and build on their interests. They provide exciting play opportunities that engage and motivate them. For example, children dress up as police officers and role play in the police playhouse outside. Staff use observations and assessments to effectively plan for children's next steps in their learning. They use their good knowledge of the children and link learning to events in the community, for example, the launch of the new lifeboat station. Children colour in worksheets featuring lifeboats and helicopters. They use scissors competently to cut around their finished pictures and competently write their own name. Staff engage children in conversations about what they have been doing so that they gain confidence in speaking in group situations. Overall, children's communication skills are effectively promoted. They enjoy listening to their favourite stories and join in with staff, singing familiar action songs. Staff ask well-timed questions and allow children time to respond, supporting their thinking skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Good relationships are established between children and their key person, which contributes to their emotional well-being. Staff follow routines to help children settle on arrival. For example, they take children to the sensory room, which provides a calm and restful environment to relax during times of stress. They enjoy the soothing music, lighting and the bubble tubes. Children confidently move between the indoor and outdoor areas. They demonstrate good levels of motivation as they explore the wide variety of play opportunities available to them. Staff promote a healthy lifestyle. They provide nutritious meals and physical play, both indoors and outdoors. Children's independence is effectively supported during practical routines and in their play.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points. Children recognise their own names and enjoy practising their early writing skills. They learn to consider each other's feelings and to take responsibility for their actions. Children learn to wait to speak in group situations and to share and take turns. They develop the skills and knowledge they require in readiness for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY485515
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1003156
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Abacus Nursery Morecambe Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP908078
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01524416800

Abacus Day Nursery was registered in 2015. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, one holds a level 4 qualification, two hold level 5 qualifications and one holds a level 6 qualification. The owner/ lead manager has early years teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday and all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 5pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The staff support a number of children who speak English as an additional language and a number of children who have special educational needs.

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