

Inspection date

7 June 2016

Previous inspection date

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 well-qualified staff are very motivated and work well together. Children become highly engaged in play and benefit from the consistently good teaching and support they receive.
- Partnership working is a central feature of this pre-school. Staff are accurately aware of children's individual needs and work closely with parents, other early years providers and professionals. This provides a collaborative approach to children's individual care and learning needs so they all make progress.
- Parents are very complimentary about the pre-school and the staff. They state that staff support them well during times of change, such as when their children start pre-school or when a change occurs to their personal circumstances.
- Robust vetting and recruitment procedures are in place. New staff undertake a detailed induction programme, to ensure they are fully aware of their role and responsibility from the very start.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make best use of opportunities to extend children's understanding and awareness of counting and numbers.
- Although the management team already monitors some groups of children, this does not yet include those who are eligible for the early years pupil premium.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the use of mathematics in daily routines, to further enhance children's knowledge and understanding of counting and numbers
- check the progress of children who are eligible for the early years pupil premium.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and activities in the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and pre-school manager. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, activity plans and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, and the provider's self-evaluation and development plans.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Andrea Price

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The very experienced and well-qualified provider has an in-depth knowledge of her role and responsibility to teach children and keep them safe. Staff regularly attend supervision meetings and frequently update their knowledge and skills. Specific training is sought to support particular children and their individual needs. The manager accurately tracks and evaluates children's learning and development. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and how to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children confidently enter this very welcoming pre-school. Staff demonstrate good knowledge of how children learn through play and have individual learning styles. They regularly observe children and accurately assess their ongoing achievements. Children demonstrate good levels of interest and desire to want to learn more. Staff plan a wide range of imaginative learning experiences. Children pretend to bake cakes for astronauts and enjoy looking at reference books with staff. This inspires their imaginations further. Children busy themselves playing in sand. They independently remove their shoes and socks, enjoying the feel of the cold sand on their feet. Children confidently use tools, such as spades and buckets to make sandcastles. Staff show interest in what children say, and ask a good range of probing questions to assess the children's understanding. Older children demonstrate their ability to solve problems independently, understanding that they need water, to make the sand sticky.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with stimulating learning environments, both indoors and outdoors. Children form strong relationships with staff which helps them to feel safe and secure. They often seek staff out to play group games, where they learn how to take turns and share equipment. Staff offer frequent praise and encouragement to children for their efforts, which clearly promotes their confidence and self-esteem. This has a positive impact on children's behaviour. Healthy practices are very well established. Staff promote healthy eating during mealtimes and share information with parents. Children are encouraged to be independent, such as when taking care of their own personal needs. Caring staff support those children who require assistance. Effective daily routines promote children to be physically active. Staff are enthusiastic which motivates children to take part. They march, jump, dance and sing to well-known songs.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress based on their starting points. This includes those who have special educational needs or disability and those for whom the pre-school receives additional funding. Staff use a variety of teaching strategies to support children who speak English as an additional language. They are gaining a good standard of English. Children's literacy skills are developing well. Staff provide opportunities for children and their families to borrow books and toys, supporting their interests and continued learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483699
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	999288
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	67
Name of registered person	Ashcroft & Ramridge Tenants And Residents Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904111
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07795310261 07551343464

Arc Cubs was registered in 2014. The pre-school employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 and 3. The pre-school opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 9.30am until 12.30pm and 1pm until 4pm. The pre-school provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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