# Little Acorns

55 New Cheltenham Road, South Gloucestershire, BS15 1TN



Inspection date	24 November 2016
Previous inspection date	26 September 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and ma	anagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asses	ssment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

# Summary of key findings for parents

## This provision is good

- Managers and staff know children well. Children continually engage in good-quality learning experiences and are inquisitive and motivated learners. They make good progress from their initial starting points.
- Managers and staff are clear in their expectations for children's behaviour. They are good role models and teach children how to keep themselves and others safe. Children are tolerant and kind to each other.
- Partnerships with parents are well-established. Managers and staff keep parents fully informed about children's progress and guide them on how to support children's learning at home. Parents speak highly of the nursery and the care their children receive.
- Managers are committed to improving practice and outcomes for children. They fully consider the views of parents, staff and children, to ensure that planned developments are pertinent. Managers have successfully addressed all recommendations from the last inspection.

#### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff sometimes ask children relevant questions to build on their interest but do not always allow them enough time to think through their ideas and respond.
- Assessment arrangements enable staff to monitor the progress of individual children well but do not provide managers with a clear overview of the progress of groups of children. This does not support managers to identify when to target focussed intervention and teaching as promptly as possible.

# What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support staff to recognise when to give children more time and encouragement to think through their ideas to extend their learning as fully as possible
- strengthen the system for tracking children's progress, in order to identify the progress made by different groups of children more precisely.

## **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 sampled a range of documentation, including attendance records, accident and incident records, staff suitability checks, the self-assessment information, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector spoke with members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the director manager and nursery manager.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

#### **Inspector**

Julie Swann

# **Inspection findings**

## Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff keep up to date with changes in safeguarding legislation. They have a good awareness of the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Managers follow secure recruitment, vetting and inductions procedures, to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Managers have high expectations of the staff team. For example, they monitor the quality of teaching and staff receive regular supervision, and team meetings to help improve their interactions further. Managers and staff complete a range of training courses to help enhance their knowledge and skills. For example, they have attended training on outdoor learning and use strategies they have learnt to help maintain children's good outcomes. Managers and staff have developed strong links with other professionals to support a collaborative approach to children's care and learning.

# Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, staff support children's communication and language skills well. For example, they narrate what babies are doing and model language for older children, such as 'aubergine' and 'leek'. Children are very creative in their play. For example, babies make 'hay bales' for their toy animals, and older children concentrate for long periods as they make cakes from dough. Staff support children to predict and test out their ideas. For example, an interest in puddles led to children using their feet to make ripples and patterns in water. Babies enjoy examining things closely. For example, they watch bubbles and fish rise in a lit-up water tube, and delight in their ability to control toys and equipment by pressing buttons on and off.

# Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are emotionally secure and form very close relationships with staff. Children develop good independence skills. Babies are encouraged to feed themselves and older children learn to make choices about what they want to eat. Children enjoy outdoor play daily where they develop their physical skills. Staff support children to understand the simple rules that are in place to keep them safe. Children begin to develop their understanding of different faiths and cultures, and people who are different to them through their explorations.

## Outcomes for children are good

All children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including starting school. They develop the skills they need, such as writing. Older children discuss volume and count, sort and match objects. Babies are enthusiastic as they join in with stories and songs. They link words to actions and enjoy listening and participating.

# **Setting details**

Unique reference number EY305073

**Local authority** South Gloucestershire

**Inspection number** 1061900

**Type of provision** Full-time provision

**Day care type**Childcare - Non-Domestic

**Registers** Early Years Register

Age range of children 0 - 4

**Total number of places** 24

Number of children on roll 43

Name of registered person

Little Acorns Day Nursery Bristol Limited

**Registered person unique** 

reference number

RP910944

**Date of previous inspection** 26 September 2013

Telephone number 0117 9606537

Little Acorns Nursery registered in 2005 and operates in Kingswood, Bristol. The nursery employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 3 and level 4. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 8am until 6pm, all year round. It receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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