

The Oxford Nursery Summertown



Marston Ferry Road, Summertown, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 7EE

Inspection date	2 December 2016
Previous inspection date	8 December 2015

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

- Parents are very happy with the quality of the provision. They feel well supported by caring staff that provide them with advice and guidance on a range of childcare matters.
- The setting is secure. No-one is able to enter the nursery without being let in by a member of staff.
- Staff know the individual children well and respond quickly and sensitively to ensure their needs are met. For example, they provide reassurance and cuddles for the babies if they are unsettled.
- Children are making good progress. Staff monitor children's development closely. This means they can make sure any gaps in children's learning are closing.
- Children develop into enthusiastic learners. Their achievements are praised and valued. Staff ask children to think about what they want to learn next, so that they build their confidence to have a go at new things.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The quality of teaching has improved rapidly, but is not yet consistently of a very high standard.
- Staff continue to search for new ways to work closely with parents and ensure they are fully involved in the development of the nursery.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the monitoring of teaching so that all teaching is of a very high quality across the nursery
- further develop plans to improve parental engagement in the nursery.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and children's learning both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at suitable times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted two joint observations with the manager of the nursery.
- The inspector sampled the nursery's documentation, such as records of children's development, the manager's self-evaluation and staff suitability checks.

Inspector

Penny Fisher, Her Majesty's Inspector

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager has worked very hard to build an effective and capable new staff team since the last inspection. There have been improvements in many areas. Most notably, staff have a much better understanding of how to observe, assess and plan for children's learning and development. The manager carefully monitors the progress that children make. Recently identified gaps in children's mathematical development have been addressed. Targeted training has ensured that staff are now more confident in the delivery of activities that help young children to explore number, space, shape and measure. Safeguarding is effective. Staff ensure that children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, children conduct risk assessments of the garden to ensure that the area is safe for their friends to play in. A high number of staff within the setting have attended higher level child protection training. Staff have many opportunities to discuss any concerns about the children in their care with the manager.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan a wide range of interesting activities for the children based on what they need to learn next. For example, older children learn about winter as they are told the story of Jack Frost. They are able to recall making prints with their hands in the frost and investigate melting ice. Staff interactions to support these activities are good. For example, they talk to the children throughout the day about what they are doing. They ask open-ended questions and allow children ample time to respond. Staff speak clearly and this helps children to learn new words, such as 'bauble'. Younger children develop their physical skills as they enjoy experiences such as finger painting and popping bubbles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are kind to the children and provide effective support for families. Good settling-in procedures ensure that children feel safe and secure in the nursery. This means they generally settle quickly to their play and learning. Babies are able to follow their own routines. For example, they can sleep when they need to in their named cots. Sleeping babies are regularly checked. Children behave well and staff offer clear explanations to children to help them understand the nursery's golden rules. There is good support for children's personal and social development. For example, they are learning to take turns with their friends.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress at the nursery. Improved teaching has ensured that any children at risk of under-achieving catch up quickly. Because activities are fun, children are learning to concentrate well. This helps them to develop the skills they need for school. For example, they thoroughly enjoy exploring the properties of water as the ice melts. Children show great pride in their achievements. The different age groups benefit from playing together for parts of the day. For example, younger children copy the older ones as they join in with the music and movement session in the nursery garden.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY266376
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	1036765
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	22
Name of provider	Acacia Care and Education Limited
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2015
Telephone number	01865 316602

The Oxford Nursery Summertown is one of two nurseries run by Acacia Care and Education Ltd and affiliated with the Oxford Nursery Limited. It opened in 2003. The nursery is open each week day from 7.30am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. A team of nine staff work with the children. Of these, five, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Other staff members are working towards a relevant qualification.

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