

Little Acorns Children's Club



St Francis Centre, Community Hall, 144 Fencepiece Road, Hainault, Essex, IG6 2LA

Inspection date 27 January 2017
Previous inspection date 18 March 2016

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

- Managers consistently monitor the quality of the provision and have improved it significantly since the last inspection. For example, they now evaluate learning experiences and track children's progress well. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Staff take part in supervision meetings and attend additional training to help strengthen their knowledge and teaching skills. For example, they now make more use of children's home languages to support their communication and language development.
- Staff provide a welcoming and caring environment. Children settle well and are confident and independent.
- Staff have improved the programme for mathematics. For example, children now use everyday language to talk about size, capacity and position, and talk about shapes of everyday objects.
- Staff attend to children's care needs well. For example, they ensure children's clothes are dry after water activities and there is no sand in their shoes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to fully extend children's thinking skills to the highest levels.
- Staff do not fully involve all parents in contributing what they know about their children's development, to provide more continuity in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop staff's skills in recognising the opportunities that arise during play to fully extend children's thinking skills to the highest levels
- make the most of opportunities to encourage parents to share their children's achievements at home and to contribute to the assessments of their development to support a more consistent approach to meeting children's learning needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector talked with parents, the provider, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the staff's interactions during activities indoors and outdoors, and looked at a range of resources and equipment.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's details, learning records, insurance documents and other relevant documentation.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the preschool manager.
- The inspector had discussions with the provider about policies and procedures, and methods of assessing and planning for children's progress. The inspector also discussed how staff work with parents and other providers.

Inspector

Caroline Preston

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They carry out regular checks of the premises and equipment to help keep children safe and secure. Staff work well together. They reflect on practice during staff meetings to improve outcomes for children. They work effectively with other agencies to ensure children's continuity of care. For example, the close relationship with the local school contributes to the ease with which children move on to the next stage in their learning. Overall, partnerships with parents work well. For example, parents speak highly of the provision and the staff who work with the children. Parents are well informed about their children's progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make detailed observations and assessments about children's learning. They use this information to challenge and extend children's skills effectively. For example, they help children to investigate natural resources as they play with sand. Children show delight as they listen to stories and sing songs, helping to support their concentration and listening skills. Staff encourage children to use language and recreate roles in play situations, such as baking cakes. They understand that children can learn effectively from outdoor play and help develop their physical skills well. For example, children show control in holding jugs to pour. They enjoy riding wheeled toys, move freely with confidence and skilfully use climbing equipment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff are good role models, who always talk to children respectfully. They demonstrate how to share and take turns and this helps children to behave well. Children develop some responsibility for simple tasks. For example, they help to tidy away, and attend to their own personal-care needs. Staff support children to learn about the wider world. For example, they celebrate cultural festivals with staff and try foods from different countries. They encourage children to adopt healthy eating habits and offer them foods according to their specific needs. For example, children enjoy healthy foods and understand how this contributes to their well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain many skills they need in preparation for the next stage in their learning, including school. They can copy some letters, such as letters from their name. Children understand that equipment and tools have to be used safely. They show confidence in asking adults for help. Children initiate conversations and take account of what others say. They give meaning to the marks they make as they confidently draw and paint.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493845
Local authority	Redbridge
Inspection number	1045159
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 - 3
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Little Acorns Children's Club (UK) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP906988
Date of previous inspection	18 March 2016
Telephone number	07926825667

Little Acorns Children's Club registered in 2015. It is situated in Hainault, in the London Borough of Redbridge. The club opens each weekday from 9.15am to 3.15pm. The club is in receipt of funding for free early education sessions for children aged two, three and four years. The breakfast club opens from 7.30am to 8.50am and the after-school provision runs from 3.30pm to 6.30pm. There is a holiday play scheme and it runs from 8am to 6pm during the school holidays, not including the Christmas period. The club employs seven staff, all of whom are qualified at levels 2 and 3.

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