

# Tiny Acorns

17 Dalrymple Road, London, SE4 2BQ



## Inspection date

7 March 2017

Previous inspection date

23 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

- Staff work closely with local schools. They share children's developmental reports so teachers are aware of the children's progress and the targets that staff are currently working on. This helps to provide good continuity of learning for the children.
- Staff are consistent in their approach to behaviour management. They teach children the importance of taking turns and sharing resources. Children behave well.
- Leadership is strong. The provider and the manager support staff well, monitoring their practice and identifying any training needs. Recent training has helped staff to provide targeted support for those children with delays in their communication skills to help them to socialise more.
- Staff provide good quality teaching to help support children's development. Children make good progress.
- Staff successfully use the views of the parents to adapt the service they provide. For example, they now give parents support for managing children's behaviour and night-time routines. This provides good continuity of care for the children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently teach younger children about mathematics and the use of mathematical language.
- The organisation of the day means that children have to wait to take part in physical play even though they are keen to be active.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on younger children's understanding of mathematics and mathematical language
- revise the organisation of the day to reduce the time that children have to wait to take part in physical play.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in the main play area and garden.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed documents, including safeguarding policies and procedures, proof of staff suitability checks, and children's files.
- The inspector took into account the views of the parents.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Rebecca Hurst

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a clear understanding of child protection and the steps to follow if they have any concerns regarding children's welfare. The manager regularly tests the staff's knowledge on safeguarding to help to make sure they fully understand their role in keeping children safe. She successfully monitors children's progress to help her and the staff to narrow any gaps in children's learning. Staff work closely with the local early years team to improve the service they provide. For instance, the provider and the manager have worked on actions raised at the last inspection and have made sure that staff are fully aware of their roles in following the welfare requirements and that planning and assessments are more rigorous to support children's learning and development.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff work well in partnership with parents to assess children's starting points, which helps them carry out detailed assessments of the children. Staff use this information to inform their planning to carry out good-quality activities, helping to progress children's learning and development. For instance, younger children enjoy role play. They talk with staff about what they are making, helping them develop their language skills. Staff teach older children how to use nuts and bolts. They skilfully teach them how to hold bolts steady to turn the nuts to tighten them. Staff make direct use of the children's interests to make activities enjoyable. For example, at the time of the inspection, children were interested in playing with model buses inside. They could not travel far in the room, so staff suggested that children take them outside to see the distance they could go. This helps to support older children's understanding of mathematics.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff gather key words in children's home languages so they can support them in learning English. They also teach other children these words so they can all understand what the children are asking. Staff teach children respect and the importance of listening to others' views, especially during group discussions. This helps to support children's understanding of the world around them.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children blossom in their learning and development. They develop the necessary skills for the next stages of their learning and move to school. Children develop good literacy skills. They learn how to link letter sounds to words to help to support their early writing skills. Children take great pride in sounding out the letters to spell their name. Younger children develop good language skills. They learn animal names and show excitement when they get these correct.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY333372
<b>Local authority</b>	Lewisham
<b>Inspection number</b>	1052781
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	22
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sharon Roye
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP906789
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	23 March 2016
<b>Telephone number</b>	02086943553

Tiny Acorns registered in 2006. It is one of three settings owned by the provider. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm throughout the year, except public holidays, three training days a year and one week at Christmas. The provider is in receipt of funding for free early education for children aged three and four years. The nursery employs eight members of staff, including the manager. Seven of these hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 and above.

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