

Little Acorns Baby Unit & Pre-School

21 Parkhill Drive, COVENTRY, CV5 7PF



Inspection date

20 April 2017

Previous inspection date

19 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 management and staff work very well together as a team.
- Robust recruitment and induction procedures are in place. Newly recruited staff settle quickly and are well informed about their roles and responsibilities.
- Children's learning is effectively supported by staff who are fully aware of children's individual interests.
- Children share warm relationships with the staff who care for them. Babies are cared for by staff who are sensitive towards their individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The staff do not always make the most of opportunities to reinforce children's growing ability to solve problems for themselves.
- There are some occasions when staff do not fully explain the consequences of children's actions as they learn to moderate their behaviour.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more consistent explanations about how their actions can affect themselves and others
- make the most of opportunities to reinforce children's growing ability to solve problems for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed joint observations with the deputy manager and observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector held meetings with the deputy manager and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Hayley Lapworth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The management team has many years experience in working with children and their families. Staff regularly complete training to ensure their first aid and safeguarding knowledge is up to date. Arrangements are in place to check staff's ongoing suitability to work with children. Leaders and managers are regularly involved in the day-to-day care of the children and staff are supported extremely well in their roles. Staff deployment is well managed at all times, ensuring all children are fully supervised. Management and staff work together to identify how they can improve the service they provide. They recently sourced new initiatives to support children's confidence and their language and communication skills. Staff understand the benefits of working with other providers to ensure continuity in children's care and learning. Parents are very happy with the service they receive. They comment that they especially appreciate opportunities for drama classes and believe that the good leadership influences staff's practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan for children's learning according to their current stage of development. Observations undertaken by staff of what the children know and can do help to inform assessments. Staff effectively use this information to determine what children need to do next in order to progress. Children learn and play in a happy and relaxed environment. They thoroughly enjoy leading their own learning, especially their imaginative play. For example, children chat about visiting Scotland, travelling via a spaceship, aeroplane and a helicopter. Confidently they compare the speed of these methods of transport.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional security is enhanced. Secure settling-in procedures ensure new children attending the nursery separate easily from their parents and are confident in their surroundings. Transitional arrangements as children move from one room to another are well managed. Overall, children's behaviour is good, they are learning how to consider other people's feelings, share and take turns. Children's good health is promoted well and secure hygiene practices are in place. Children's nutritional needs are supported through a good, healthy balance of freshly cooked meals. All ages of children spend long periods of time playing outdoors each day, supporting their overall physical development.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress. They really enjoy expressing their ideas and creating imaginative games with their peers. Children develop good skills for future learning and in readiness for the move on to pre-school and school. Children readily communicate with their peers, staff and visitors to the nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418098
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	1094565
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	34
Number of children on roll	65
Name of registered person	Stephanie Ison
Registered person unique reference number	RP515817
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2015
Telephone number	02476402277

Little Acorns Baby Unit & Pre-School was established in 2003 and was re-registered in 2010. The nursery is privately owned. The nursery employs 13 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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