

Seedlings Day Nursery

The Annex, Bowthorpe Hall, Bowthorpe Hall Road, NORWICH, Norfolk, NR5 9AA



Inspection date	22 August 2017
Previous inspection date	24 April 2014

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 leadership and management of the nursery are strong. Leaders are committed to the continued development of the nursery and have a clear vision for the future. Their accurate evaluation of provision reflects the views of children, parents and staff.
- The outdoor environment presents children with a rich and varied range of opportunities in all areas of learning. For example, children readily access writing materials and create their own outdoor mathematics classroom as they play. This enhances the development of those children who prefer to learn outdoors.
- Staff know the children well and make ongoing assessments of their abilities. They skilfully plan for children's continued learning, using their good knowledge of how children learn and develop. Children engage well in activities and demonstrate their eagerness to learn. This helps them to develop skills to support their future learning.
- Children develop secure friendships with their peers and close bonds to staff. They behave well, consistently use good manners and show care and concern for others. Children are happy and settled showing that their emotional needs are well met.
- Children are active and independent learners. They are keen to have a go at small tasks and regularly seek out opportunities to help them practise and develop new skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff are not always best deployed when managing routines to make the most of opportunities to extend and enhance children's independent learning and ideas.
- Sometimes, staff do not always give children time to think and respond to questions before moving them on 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:

- review the deployment of staff when managing routines so that children receive consistently high-quality support to enhance their learning and play ideas
- help children to develop deeper thinking skills and give them time to reflect on staff's questions and verbalise their answers.

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 spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager and owner. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Julie Meredith-Jenkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff are well supported in the nursery to become confident and skilled practitioners. The manager supports staff who are undertaking childcare qualifications and gives them regular and ongoing guidance to help them improve. This contributes to their enthusiasm and motivation when interacting with children and helping them to learn. Staff attend ongoing training and are keen to share their knowledge and ideas with others to ensure consistent practice, such as when managing children's behaviour. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a secure understanding of how to report any concerns they have about children's welfare. The experienced manager knows what she must do to ensure concerns are passed onto relevant authorities quickly and in line with local safeguarding children's board procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff enable children to make decisions about the direction of play and skilfully follow their interests. They sit together during craft activities as staff model vocabulary, comment on what children do and encourage them to use a wide range of tools and resources. Children show their imagination through their artwork and begin to develop a story about robots which they have drawn. Younger children enjoy the sensory experience of splashing in water and explore using pots and containers to fill and pour. Staff work in partnership with parents to support children's learning. They share information with parents about children's progress in the nursery. Staff use information provided by parents to incorporate into their plans for learning in the nursery, such as building on children's expanding vocabulary used at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and independent. They take pride in their achievements and are keen to demonstrate what they can do. Younger children beam with pride as they successfully thread a block onto a piece of string. Staff enthusiastically praise children to promote their self-esteem. Staff encourage children of all ages to be independent. Older children are encouraged to dress independently and younger children are supported to serve themselves food at snack and lunchtime and clear away their plates. Children's good health is promoted. They learn where fruit and vegetables come from as they cultivate them in the garden and use them at mealtimes. Children have plentiful opportunities to play and exercise in the fresh air to promote their physical well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make consistently good levels of progress from their starting points. Those children who speak English as an additional language develop effective social and communication skills to help them to be ready for school. Children practise their literacy and mathematical skills during everyday opportunities. They are inquisitive and ask questions to further develop their knowledge and understanding. Children have a positive attitude to learning. They are motivated and enthusiastic learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY454180
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	1102449
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	56
Number of children on roll	90
Name of registered person	ARK Ventures UK Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903515
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2014
Telephone number	01603 734734

Seedlings Day Nursery registered in 2013. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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