

Apple Blossom Day Nursery

Apple Blossom Day Nursery, London Road, Strete Raleigh, Whimble, EXETER, EX5 2PT



Inspection date

25 January 2018

Previous inspection date

15 September 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

- Children behave extremely well. They show consideration to their friends and their environment. For example, children show kindness and pass other children their shoes. They notice resources on the floor, such as puzzle pieces, and pick them up without prompting.
- The rich outdoor environment supports children learning about nature very well. They explore the changing seasons and how to care for animals. For example, children work together to feed the chickens and tend the raised beds preparing them for growing fruit, vegetables and flowers.
- Staff build strong relationships with parents and carers. There are good methods to regularly share information about the children's progress and for parents to discuss children's achievements at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always effectively challenge the more able children to make sure they make the best possible progress in their learning.
- Documentation is not well organised or easily accessible for inspection by Ofsted. The manager recognises they have been focusing on other aspects of the nursery and they have identified they need to spend time organising records and documents.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use every opportunity to extend children's learning, particularly the more able children
- review the organisation of documentation to ensure that records are easily accessible and available for inspection.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out by two inspectors.
- A joint observation was carried out with the manager by one of the inspectors and they discussed the findings.
- The inspectors spoke to parents and carers to gain their views.
- The inspectors spoke to staff and children and completed observations in both play rooms and the outside area.
- The inspectors held a meeting with management. They discussed self-evaluation and viewed children's learning records, staff records and policies and procedures.

Inspectors

Lorraine Sparey / Johanna Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know and understand their roles and responsibilities. They are confident in implementing the secure child protection procedures in the event of a concern about a child's welfare. Management have good systems to support staff, for example, management observe staff in their daily practice and give feedback. They hold regular meetings and staff have good training opportunities. The team of staff work well together and cascade what they learn when on training courses. Management value staff and parents' views and they action these where possible. For example, parents suggested improvement to the nursery pathway and management addressed this immediately. Nursery staff build good relationships with other early years settings and local schools. For example, staff support the learning of older children who attend before and after school by working with the individual schools they attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete regular observations and use discussions with parents to inform their accurate assessments of children's progress. They use this knowledge well to plan a range of activities that are linked to children's interests and the next steps in their learning. Staff use effective teaching methods. For example, staff provide babies with good opportunities to explore texture and their senses as together they mix paint and water on the ground outside. Staff effectively support older children's early literacy skills. They encourage children to recall stories and predict what is going to happen next.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a welcoming environment where children quickly settle and build good relationships with staff and other children. They benefit from healthy snacks and lunches. Mealtimes are social occasions where children enjoy talking with their friends and the staff. They show respect and good manners. Staff position even the youngest children in the high chairs so they can contribute and feel fully included. Children learn to keep themselves safe through taking risks, such as climbing trees, running around the uneven ground and using a range of tools such as forks and trowels.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning or the move to school. They are motivated and keen to participate in planned activities. For example, younger children thoroughly enjoy bubble play and older children listen well as they move their bodies to music. Older children concentrate well as they develop mathematical skills matching numbers and objects and creating patterns using different sized bears.

Setting details

Unique reference number	105825
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	1122215
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	41
Number of children on roll	61
Name of registered person	Karen Irene Winson
Registered person unique reference number	RP513987
Date of previous inspection	15 September 2015
Telephone number	01404 822251

Apple Blossom Day Nursery registered in 2000. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.45am to 6pm, all year round, except for one week in December. A team of seven staff, including the manager, care for the children. The manager, who owns the setting, holds a relevant level 3 qualification in childcare and a level 5 qualification in management. One member of staff holds relevant level 2 qualification.

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