Abacus Day Nursery



Ketley Bank Community Centre, Main road, Ketley Bank, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 0DH

Inspection date23 MayPrevious inspection date30 Augu			
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

- Staff work together effectively to implement the setting's routines, policies and procedures. The complete regular checks and supervise children well, which helps to keep them safe.
- Children's confidence and self-esteem is promoted very well. Children take turns in being 'little helpers' and show pride as they complete tasks, such as preparing for snack.
- The manager monitors and evaluates the quality of teaching, learning and outcomes for children. She uses external advice and training, models practice and provides support to staff to secure and improve the good-quality provision and outcomes for children.
- The nursery is very well equipped. A wide range of good-quality, interesting resources are easily accessible. This means that children are eager to join in and are able to confidently make choices to lead their own play. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Staff ensure the nursery environment reflects the diverse backgrounds of the children and the wider community, so they learn to respect each other's differences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of opportunities that arise from children's self-chosen activities to ask questions to fully extend their learning and promote their thinking skills.
- Staff do not consistently use children's observations effectively to identify precisely what they need to learn next.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make best use of questioning to help fully extend children's learning and enhance their good progress
- make best use of individual children's observations to identify even more precisely what they need to learn next.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children and staff during the inspection. She spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager implements robust recruitment procedures to check staff's suitability to work with children. All staff have appropriate firstaid training; they understand how to deal effectively with accidents and inform parents. The manager and staff know what to do if they have any concerns about a child and are knowledgeable about wider child protection issues, such as their role in protecting children from extreme views and behaviours. Strong partnership working with parents is in place. Parents are involved in agreeing children's starting points and have regular opportunities to share key information. This ensures staff know how to provide for each child's needs, interests and stages of development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a stimulating indoor play environment for children to explore and learn. Children develop their imaginative skills effectively. For example, they explore foam and pretend it is snowing when they blow it into the air. Writing materials are available, both indoors and outdoors, so children can practise their early writing skills. Staff support children to develop their literacy skills effectively. For example, they encourage them to sing along to nursery rhymes and listen to stories. Activities, such as role play, help children to learn about different people and explore different animals.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents say that all staff are approachable and supportive; they are happy with the quality of care their children receive. Staff encourage children to take care of their personal care needs and to adopt good hygiene procedures. Staff manage children's behaviour well. They model good manners and positive social skills for children to copy. For example, children use 'please' and 'thank you' appropriately and encourage other children to join in their play. Staff praise children's efforts and achievements to help develop their self-confidence and to let them know they are doing well. They support them to develop good health and physical skills. Children have regular access to outdoor play and develop their large-muscle skills effectively. Children benefit from a wide range of home-cooked, healthy meals.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are being well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including their eventual move on to school. They enter nursery eager to greet the staff and their friends. Children are clearly very happy and settled. Children are developing their speech and language, early writing and mathematical skills effectively. Children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They develop their independence and focus well on activities of interest to them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY244931	
Local authority	Telford & Wrekin	
Inspection number	1064372	
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	92	
Number of children on roll	16	
Name of registered person	Abacus (Dawley) Ltd	
Registered person unique reference number	RP520991	
Date of previous inspection	30 August 2013	
Telephone number	01952 617295	

Abacus Day Nursery registered in 2002. There are seven members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, and four hold level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 5.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It also provides out-of-school and holiday care for older children. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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