

Abacus Preschool Nursery

190 Greenmount Lane, Markland Hill, Bolton, Lancashire, BL1 5JE



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

24 May 2018

28 October 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff support children who have a special educational needs and/or disabilities very well. They include them in all activities and work well with other professionals to support children's developing communication and language skills.
- The management team closely monitors the quality of teaching. They hold regular one-to-one meetings with staff to discuss their performance and any concerns they have. This helps to identify any potential training needs and contributes towards staff feeling valued.
- The manager and experienced staff team strive to provide a high-quality provision. They value and act upon feedback from parents and children. This helps benefit children and results in a service that is continually improving, including for children who speak English as an additional language.
- Staff work effectively together to help all children to make good progress. They use their frequent observations of children's play to measure their progress accurately. Staff plan precise next steps in learning for children that help them to close gaps in their learning.
- Staff establish extremely close bonds with their key groups of children and their families.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff asks questions and do not give children sufficient time to think about what they want to say and process their own thoughts.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children time to think and put their thoughts into words before expecting them to answer questions.

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

Inspector

Lindsey Wallwork-Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have good knowledge of child protection issues and fully understand their safeguarding responsibilities. The management team and staff implement rigorous systems to help to keep children safe. This includes daily risk assessments, an effective entry system, good staff deployment and effectual child supervision. This provides them with the knowledge they need to respond to any accidents or injuries promptly. The management team effectively monitors the progress made by individual and groups of children. This helps to support key persons with their key children's individual learning needs. They identify improvements to the environment to help to extend children's communication and language skills. The management team involves the local authority, and the views of parents and children in their improvement plans. As a result of working together, they have improved initial assessments of children on entry to the pre-school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are enthusiastic in their interactions with children, and children in turn respond with enthusiasm in their play. Staff demonstrate resources to help children to engage well with creative play opportunities. For example, they support children to paint pictures of the newly hatched chicks. Staff are very responsive to children's interests and have recently changed their daily routine to reflect this. For example, children choose what resources they would like to play with on arrival and in what area of the pre-school. Staff support children's mathematical development particularly well, as they increase their awareness of shapes, colours, numbers and size during daily activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Parents say, 'Children thrive at the pre-school and love to learn and have new experiences'. This is evident in children's behaviour. They show high levels of confidence and enthusiasm as they play harmoniously together. Older children enjoy playing with younger children, showing empathy for each other's needs. For example, children comfort each other when they become upset and learn to share toys and take turns. Staff teach children about life cycles of chickens and butterflies. They enjoy learning and caring for the new chicks that have just hatched, and delight as they release the butterflies, watching them fly away. Children have an abundance of opportunities to extend their self-care skills and independence. For instance, they cut fruit up for snack time, pour drinks and rub in their sun cream. Physical development is greatly promoted through weekly swimming lessons, dance classes and football sessions.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy stories and confidently predict what will happen next. Older children recognise letters and develop good knowledge of the sounds that letters represent. For example, children enjoy listening to the sounds of different objects that staff hide in 'the sound box' and they shout with excitement, 'k for keys'. Children display positive attitudes in their learning and for the future, including for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY243716
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	1104014
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 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	37
Name of registered person	Nila Faulds
Registered person unique reference number	RP513704
Date of previous inspection	28 October 2014
Telephone number	01204849193

Abacus Pre-School Nursery registered in 2003. The pre-school opens Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 8.15am until 5.45pm. There are currently seven staff working directly with children, of these, four staff hold a qualification at level 3 and one member of staff holds early years professional status.

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