

Apple Tree Montessori

123 Uxbridge Road, Harrow, HA3 6DJ



Inspection date	18 June 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 manager leads the staff team well. For example, she observes their practice and provides them with constructive feedback on how they can improve their teaching and leadership skills. Staff talk extremely positively about the quality of the coaching and mentoring they receive from their manager, and how this helps them to improve their practice.
- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. Children make good progress from their starting points and are ready for the next stage in their learning, including their move to school.
- Children enjoy a wide range of activities, including those that help them to learn about their own identity, different people, communities and their cultures. For example, children talk excitedly about being able to hold a party for Eid with their friends.
- The manager and her staff create a warm and welcoming environment for children and their families. Staff take time to explain simple rules about sharing and taking turns. Children behave well and understand the daily routines.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, teaching and learning activities do not fully support children to develop their self-confidence.
- On occasions, staff miss opportunities to encourage all children to contribute their ideas and experiences to group times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on teaching and learning activities that help children to develop their self-confidence
- increase opportunities for all children to contribute their ideas and experiences to discussions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and reviewed parents' written comments.
- The inspector observed children's play and staff interactions with children in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector viewed documentation and held meetings with the manager.

Inspector

Elizabeth Shack

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff know the procedures to follow for reporting any safeguarding concerns. The manager is reflective and ambitious. She uses information gained from assessment well to evaluate the quality of the nursery and to target areas for improvement. Continuous professional development plans for staff are carefully considered to ensure they meet the individual needs of staff as well as the needs of the children in their care. Parents comment on the quality of the support they receive from the nursery and how events, such as curriculum evenings and being able to borrow resources, help them to extend their child's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are highly motivated and plan interesting and challenging activities for children. Babies take part in activities that provide a good foundation for their later literacy development. For example, they are fascinated to experiment with making marks using their fingers on an interactive wall display the staff have made for them. Staff work effectively in partnership with parents. They regularly inform parents about their children's progress and well-being. Staff skilfully build on children's interests to extend their learning. For example, when children express an interest in dinosaurs, staff plan activities around this theme. Staff use questioning well to extend children's ideas and to help them recall prior learning, such as when as they weigh, measure and investigate model dinosaurs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The nursery provides a warm and welcoming environment for children and their parents. On the whole, children are confident in the nursery and most settle quickly into the morning activities. Parents comment on the attachments their children show for their key person. Children learn about making healthy choices, for instance, as they make gift bags filled with fruit for Eid. They are able to talk about why certain types of food are good for us; for example, they can say that carrots are good for our sight. Staff provide children with opportunities to manage risk and learn to use tools safely. For example, they learn how to use a grater with real vegetables in the home corner.

Outcomes for children are good

The manager carefully monitors the achievements of groups of children to identify gaps in their learning. She swiftly implements improvements so that differences in children's learning are rapidly closed. Children who speak English as an additional language make good progress in developing their communication skills in English.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY498815
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	1044878
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	49
Name of registered person	Apple Tree Day Nursery (UK) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900932
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07940 784970

Apple Tree Montessori registered in 2016. The provider employs nine members of staff, of whom, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm all year round, apart from two weeks at Christmas. The nursery provides funded early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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