# **Acorn Nursery**





Inspection date	29 June 2018
Previous inspection date	28 July 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

- Staff offer a welcoming and inclusive learning environment. Children settle well into daily routines, make friends and play together in harmony. They feel safe and can approach staff for help when needed. Children's behaviour is generally good.
- Staff are sensitive to the needs of the children and help them catch up if required. Children make good progress in relation to their individual starting points. They are well prepared for the next stages of their learning, including starting school.
- Children have wonderful opportunities to develop their physical skills in the outdoors. For example, they learn to manoeuvre bikes and scooters safely and climb the apparatus confidently.
- Staff keep parents well informed about their children's academic progress and well-being, and give them guidance on how to support their children's learning and development in the provision and at home.
- Managers continually monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision to help ensure that staff meet children's learning needs and care effectively.

#### It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not provide a high level of challenge to support children's speaking and to aid their understanding.
- Staff do not always encourage children to manage tasks for themselves so that they become more independent 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:

- provide even greater challenge in activities to extend children's speaking and deepen their learning further
- make the most of all opportunities to help children become more independent in their learning.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed activities in all parts of the nursery, including the outdoor provision.
- The inspector spoke to some members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the management team.
- 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 and suggestions.
- The inspector looked at children's records and the nursery's policies and procedures, including those related to the suitability of staff.

# **Inspector**

Fatiha Maitland

# **Inspection findings**

## Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Thorough vetting checks help ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding practices and know how to make referrals if they have any welfare concerns about children in their care. For example, they have reviewed their health and safety policies and procedures and conducted regular checks on the premises and resources to keep children safe. Managers observe staff and give them constructive feedback to help them improve the quality of their practice. Staff attend regular training to strengthen their skills. They work effectively with relevant agencies and providers to ensure good continuity and progression in children's learning. Managers act on the views of staff, parents and others to maintain a good service. Parents are pleased with the good progress their children make and appreciate the support their children receive from the attentive staff team.

## Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff collate relevant information from parents to establish children's starting points. They use this information, along with their ongoing observations, to provide engaging activities that meet children's needs and interests. Staff show children how to use resources safely and introduce them to new experiences. Children keenly join in play and relate well to each other. For example, they roll, pat and cut play dough into role-play birthday cakes and like to show their work to staff who praise them for their good efforts. Children use different construction tools and learn to build models purposefully. They join in rhymes and stories. Children listen attentively and respond well to instructions.

# Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff form positive relationships with children. They talk to children in a calm manner and support their social and emotional skills effectively. Children learn to share toys fairly, take turns and respect the feelings of others. Staff help children adopt healthy living and meet their dietary requirements carefully. For example, children understand the importance of personal hygiene to reduce the risk of infection. They enjoy nutritious meals cooked on the premises and know that water keeps them hydrated. Children learn about their own identities and cultures and those of others around them. They learn to be tolerant of others.

#### **Outcomes for children are good**

Children develop good skills for their future learning and any gaps are closing. Young children learn to socialise with others and handle resources with care. Children explore musical instruments and listen to the sounds they make. Older children recognise letters and sounds, and can write words, such as their names, correctly. They can count, sort and match objects, and learn to solve problems.

# **Setting details**

Unique reference number 137751

**Local authority** Brent

**Inspection number** 1127049

**Type of provision** Full-time provision

**Day care type**Childcare - Non-Domestic

**Registers** Early Years Register

Age range of children 0 - 4

**Total number of places** 65

Number of children on roll 69

Name of registered person Acorn Manor Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP557718

**Date of previous inspection** 28 July 2015

Telephone number 020 8902 2871

Acorn Nursery registered in 2000. It is located in the grounds of Oakington Manor School in the London Borough of Brent. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm and operates for 49 weeks of the year. There are 19 staff employed to work directly with the children, 12 of whom hold early years qualifications ranging from level 2 to 5.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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