

Apple Tree Day Care Nursery

The Cider House, Wild Country Lane, Long Ashton, Bristol, Avon BS41 9AG



Inspection date	19 November 2018
Previous inspection date	9 July 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This is a provision that requires improvement

- Some staff are not consistent in the quality of their teaching. When planning activities, they do not always consider the environment and the number of children.
- The arrangements for children moving from the baby room to the pre-school room do not take into consideration the skills and routine children need to settle in, for example, preparation for sitting during circle time and independently washing hands.
- The manager does not keep himself updated with important changes to the requirements. This means relevant information is not shared with staff and/or embedded in their practice.
- Communication with parents is not consistently strong. The manager does not do enough to improve communication with parents who speak limited English.

It has the following strengths

- The manager has made some improvements since the last inspection. Staff have a better understanding of identifying and managing risks. This helps children stay safe.
- Staff have good relationships with children. They are caring and nurturing towards them and children are generally happy.
- Children's behaviour is managed well. Staff clearly explain why an action may not be appropriate. For example, children are asked not to throw sand in the air as it may get in their eyes. As a result, children understand why they are asked to stop doing something.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
improve the quality of teaching by ensuring children are sufficiently challenged to make the best possible progress in their learning and development	16/12/2018
implement careful planning of activities so that they are suitable for their purpose and help children make progress.	16/12/2018

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

- improve arrangements for children to move between rooms so that they settle quickly and have the skills they need
- develop practice further by keeping up to date with changes to the early years foundation stage requirements
- improve further communication with parents to help those who have limited English engage well in their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spent time observing children at play in all areas of the nursery.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies, records of the progress children have made, the setting's self-evaluation and improvement plan and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke with parents, children and staff.
- The inspector met with the manager and discussed how the nursery is led and managed.

Inspector
Champa Miah

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The manager is taking steps to improve the setting. He has developed the outdoor area by providing children with equipment that will challenge them, such as items with which they can build. However, the manager does not have high enough expectations of the staff. When observing staff's practice, he does not accurately identify weaknesses, which means these are not addressed and there are inconsistencies in the quality of teaching. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, as well as the procedures to follow when they have concerns. However, the manager has failed to train staff on wider safeguarding issues that have been introduced through changes to the requirements. Parents are complimentary about the nursery and the communication they receive about their children. However, the manager does not do enough to secure strong communication with parents who do not speak English well. As a result, they do not always obtain as much information as possible about children who have English as an additional language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The manager has introduced regular trips to the woods. This helps children to develop physically and learn about the world. However, the quality of teaching is variable. Staff do not always obtain enough information when children first start, in order to understand what they are interested in and what they can already do. Although staff in the baby room provide some challenging experiences for children, in pre-school a child who is capable of counting himself is not given the opportunity to count independently. This is because staff do not have high enough expectations of children. This means the activities that are provided are not always challenging and children lose interest.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children, generally, behave well. Staff clearly explain expectations for behaviour to older children, check their understanding and praise them when they comply. Children in pre-school learn to be independent in preparation for starting school. They learn to use the toilet independently, wash their hands and put on their own clothes. However, self-independence is not always promoted in younger children in the baby room. They are not encouraged to learn to wash their hands or wipe their nose. As a result, they struggle to follow this routine when they move to pre-school and they do not settle as quickly as possible.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Babies develop well and explore the different resources with confidence when they are in small groups, as well as when they are with older children. The manager has made some improvements in engaging parents in their children's learning by sending out newsletters and providing regular feedback. However he is still not doing enough to engage with parents who are less accessible. As a result, children's learning is not always promoted at home and they do not make the best possible progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY240994
Local authority	North Somerset
Inspection number	10084187
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	22
Name of registered person	Apple Tree Day Care Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP520864
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2018
Telephone number	01275 395295

Apple Tree Day Care Nursery registered in 2002. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The owner, who is also the manager, has early years professional status and five staff hold qualifications from level 2 to level 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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