

# Little Acorns Nursery School

Waterberry Drive, Waterloooville PO7 7UN



<b>Inspection date</b>	7 February 2019
Previous inspection date	15 May 2018

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 monitors the setting well. She has an accurate view of where improvements can be made and is committed to staff training. This has a positive impact on children's learning and staff performance.
- Children enjoy close, nurturing relationships with staff. Staff provide reassurance and comfort to children who arrive at nursery unsettled. This helps children feel safe and supports their emotional well-being well.
- Children are making good progress in their learning. Staff use the information they gain from parents and their own observations to plan activities that children will be interested in. The manager and staff team regularly monitor the progress that children make. They use the information well to target any gaps in children's learning.
- Parents speak positively about the nursery. Staff keep them up to date about their child's progress at nursery. Parents feel this helps them to be able to prepare their child for their future learning.
- Staff help children to understand about healthy lifestyles through everyday activities. For example, older children explore how to move their bodies and stretch their muscles to improve their coordination.
- Staff make good use of opportunities for children who enjoy learning outdoors. For example, young children explore the marks that chalk makes on walls and the floor. This supports their early literacy skills well.
- At times, some staff do not manage group activities well. This means that sometimes children are not fully engaged, as routine tasks distract children and limit what they learn from the activity.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review group activities to minimise distractions and to keep all children engaged in their learning
- continue to monitor the quality of teaching to raise the learning experiences for children to the highest possible level.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and support for children's learning indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector assessed how well leaders and staff understand and implement nursery policies, and how they monitor children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation to assess how well leaders monitor the quality of teaching.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, including children's records, safeguarding records and staff training certificates.
- The inspector talked to parents, staff and children during the inspection and took their views into account.

### Inspector

Teresa Newman

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager follows safe recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Thorough induction procedures mean that staff understand their roles and responsibilities. Staff are aware of how to identify and report any concerns they may have about children's well-being, including those children who may be at risk from extreme views or behaviours. The manager monitors staff practice through observations and regular supervision. This ensures that staff can reflect on and improve their practice.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Qualified staff act as positive role models to those staff gaining qualifications. This ensures that the quality of teaching across the nursery is good. Children arrive keen and eager to play and explore the environment. For example, older children delighted as they investigated paint. They laughed with their friends while they watched the colours change as they mixed together. Staff used this opportunity well. They talked to the children about the colours they had made and encouraged them to predict what other colours they could make. Staff help children to be active and provide good opportunities for them to develop their physical skills. For example, babies develop their balance and coordination as they crawl over large soft blocks. All children are developing their communication skills well. Staff sing songs and read stories to children to help extend their vocabulary. Parents appreciate being able to see their child's achievements by using the online communication system.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide children with regular praise and encouragement. This boosts children's confidence and helps them develop a positive view of themselves. Children behave well as they know what is expected of them. For example, older children remind their friends of the need to sweep up the sand they have spilt on the floor. There is an effective key-person system in place. This helps children to develop secure attachments and meets their individual needs. Younger children confidently engage in conversation with visitors. They ask questions and proudly show them the nursery and their favourite activities. Staff ensure that the premises are safe for the children to use and make sure that they remove any potential hazards. Children know the nursery routines well, and even the babies know they need to wash their hands ready for snack.

### Outcomes for children are good

Older children gain good literacy skills and are beginning to write their own names. Babies enjoy listening to songs and rhymes. They giggle and clap their hands to show their delight. They are becoming good communicators. Young children are developing their understanding of numbers as they count the number of balls they can play with.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY499416
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10093774
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	88
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	131
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Little Acorns Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP535310
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	15 May 2018
<b>Telephone number</b>	02392265151

Little Acorns Nursery School registered in 1995 and re-registered in 2016. The nursery is located in Waterlooville, Hampshire. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6pm, for 52 weeks of the year. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years old. The nursery employs 27 members of staff, most of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications.

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