Abacus Ark

Unit C, Ground Floor, 17 Enterprise Way, London SW18 1FZ



Inspection date	10 May 2019
Previous inspection date	29 July 2016

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	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

- Staff provide children with a good range of activities linked well to their interests. They carry out regular assessments of children, and make effective use of this information to provide appropriate challenges for children. Children make good progress.
- Staff have effective ways of managing children's behaviour. They offer explanations of why certain behaviour is not appropriate, and share group rules with the children. Staff are calm and fair in their approach. Children behave well.
- Staff have good relationships with parents. They keep them well informed of children's progress, and provide a forum for parents to voice their views.
- The manager supports staff well. She meets with them on a one-to-one basis to discuss their work and training needs. For instance, staff attended a course on observation and assessment, which led to more-effective practice.
- The manager considers all aspects of the provision, and has clear ideas on how to implement future improvements.
- Staff have not developed ways for younger children to access a wider variety of textures and materials to further support their creative development.
- Staff have not fully developed children's understanding of the value of healthy routines, such as taking physical exercise and eating well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop more ways for younger children to use a wider range of textures and materials to support their creative skills further
- increase children's understanding of the value of their current routines, such as eating nutritious meals and snacks and taking regular physical exercise.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- The inspector observed the interaction between staff and children, and spoke to children when appropriate.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, and held a discussion with the manager.
- The inspector considered the views of parents and staff during the inspection.

Inspector

Jenny Beckles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff help to ensure that children are protected from harm. There is very secure entry to the building, and staff perform daily safety checks, covering all areas of the nursery to keep children safe. The manager has a comprehensive recruitment procedure, which involves robust background checks on staff. She monitors the nursery successfully. For example, she spends time in group rooms, observing and feeding back to staff to enhance their practice. The manager has robust tracking of children's progress, which she uses to provide ready support to children who need additional help.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff help children to develop strong language and literacy skills. For instance, they sing action rhymes with younger children, who learn new words as they perform actions. Staff teach older children to recognise their names, and they have good letter and sound knowledge. Staff help children to gain secure early mathematical skills. For instance, staff play simple games to help children to recognise numbers, and they teach children different shape names. Staff support children's understanding of the world well. For instance, they all take part in daily group times where older children learn about days of the week and seasons, and younger ones sing songs and learn about the weather. Children develop good physical skills, such as running, jumping and climbing, by using different resources in the well-equipped outdoor area.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are content and secure. Staff interact warmly with children and have strong, caring relationships with them. Staff take time to get to know children well, and support familiar home routines and interests to ensure that children settle happily. Children gain good independence skills. For example, older children know how to take off their shoes and put on their indoor slippers. They serve themselves at lunchtime, and pour their drinks themselves. Staff teach children how to behave in safe ways. For instance, children use tools and materials with care and caution, and they take part in regular evacuation drills to ensure they know what to do in an emergency.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and motivated to learn. They learn to share and to take turns well. Staff support younger children to gain these skills. Older children are able to operate simple technology independently. Children learn to respect themselves and others from diverse racial or religious backgrounds. They concentrate well. Children learn useful skills to support the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference numberEY488284Local authorityWandsworthInspection number10076465

Type of provision Childcare on non-domestic premises

Registers Early Years Register

Day care type Full day care

Age range of children 0 - 4

Total number of places 85

Number of children on roll 60

Name of registered person Abacus Ark2 Limited

Registered person unique

reference number

RP534520

Date of previous inspection29 July 2016 **Telephone number**0208 874 1725

Abacus Ark registered in 2015. It is located in Wandsworth Town, in the London Borough of Wandsworth. The nursery is open on Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for 50 weeks of the year, and is closed on public bank holidays. There are 18 members of staff, including the manager, and 15 of these hold appropriate early years qualifications. This includes six staff who hold a qualification in early years at level 6, four staff who hold a qualification in childcare at level 2. The nursery receives funding for free early years education for children age three and four years.

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