

Inspection of Arc All Aboard Nursery

Arc All Aboard Nursery, Unit 16, Headlands Trading Estate, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 7JQ

Inspection date: 16 July 2021

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Good

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

A multi-academy trust specialising in the special education sector owns this nursery. All children who join have identified needs around social communication and interaction difficulties, including autism spectrum disorder.

The manager and staff care deeply for children, treating them with kindness and respect at all times. They greet children warmly, with expressive smiles, and cuddles, if desired by the child. Children are happy and settled, displaying good levels of trust in the staff who care for them.

Senior leaders and the dedicated manager are ambitious for all children to achieve and make progress as they play. However, they do not monitor the impact of staff practice on children's learning as well as possible. Although some staff interactions with children are good and extend children's learning and interests, too many have insufficient focus, particularly during free-play activities, to encourage and support children's early communication and language and physical development in preparation for school. This impacts on how well children engage in activities and the progress they make.

Staff establish regular routines, and all staff share high expectations of behaviour. Children behave well and find security in knowing what is expected of them. They react positively to attempts to calm them and staff help them manage their frustrations well.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The manager and special educational needs coordinator work well with parents and other professionals involved with children's care. They use additional funding effectively to support individual children's care and learning needs. Staff have completed training that has supported them well to use positive behaviour management with children.
- Staff use their knowledge and understanding of what children can do when planning next steps to improve each child's learning. This helps children make small, but very significant gains in the areas most relevant to them. They communicate a choice independently. They feel comfortable getting their hands messy in a practical activity making 'fizzy mud' and learn the sequence of numbers. Children compare colours as they mix paint and count plastic fish in water play.
- The well-organised manager works closely with her staff team. She offers support to help staff ensure the nursery's aim of keeping children safe, comfortable, and able to learn. Children are cared for in a relaxing and calm environment. They freely access the resources on offer. Staff know about

children's sleeping and eating patterns and can meet their care needs suitably. However, staff have not given full consideration to providing children with a comfortable area where they can relax and rest, particularly for the wide range of sensory needs of the children who attend. This may impact on some children's emotional well-being.

- The majority of parents are overwhelmingly positive about the nursery. They say they feel a part of the nursery family and talk with passion about the difference the nursery has made to their children. Parents say 'how amazing the staff are' and that the changes in their child's behaviour have 'been life-changing'. All parents spoken to on the day of the inspection said they 'could not thank the staff enough'.
- Staff are positive role models for children, in particular for behaviour and attitudes. However, staff do not focus their interactions with children to support their growing understanding of a healthy lifestyle. Nonetheless, staff provide fresh drinking water children can request.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff know their duties and responsibilities to safeguard children and understand what to do in the event of an allegation against a member of staff. The manager uses a comprehensive induction and training programme to make sure all staff know how to keep children safe. Staff know the children well and refer any concerns they have to the designated safeguarding lead. The manager keeps a detailed chronology of events and actions taken to protect children. Staff work with a wide range of agencies, to ensure that children have the right support. Most children attend nursery regularly. From time to time, children's attendance dips. When this is the case, the manager addresses these issues unswervingly, liaising closely with parents to ensure there is a joint approach to helping and supporting children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
improve the monitoring of staff knowledge and skills to deliver a consistently high-quality programme, in particular to support children's communication and language and physical development to a higher level.	20/05/2022

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

- increase staff's focus when organising the learning environment so that it takes full account of the wide range of children's sensory and individual needs, and provide a comfy and restful area for children
- provide more opportunities to develop children's awareness and understanding of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle
- ensure that staff have the support and coaching they need to raise the quality of teaching to a consistently good level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2502792
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	10191396
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	3 to 5
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Brunel Sen Multi Academy Trust
Registered person unique reference number	2502791
Telephone number	07918 551301
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Arc All Abroad Nursery is situated in Swindon, Wiltshire. It is owned by Brunel SEN Multi Academy Trust. It operates Monday to Friday, 8am to 5.30pm, term time only. The nursery provides specialist day care provision for children with social communication and interaction difficulties and/or a diagnosis of autism. The nursery employs 12 members of childcare staff, including the manager. Staff hold relevant early years qualifications from level 6 to level 2. The nursery provides funded early education for children aged three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Harvey

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector completed a learning walk and joint observation with the manager and discussed children's play, learning and progress. They observed teaching practice and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector read some of the setting's documentation, including evaluation audits, training certificates, behaviour management and safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to parents in person and by phone. She sampled a number of parent feedback questionnaires and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a feedback meeting with the manager and three members of senior management from the multi-academy trust.

We carried out this inspection 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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2021