

Inspection of Apple Tree Day Nursery Ltd

18 BRIGG ROAD, HIBALDSTOW, BRIGG, SOUTH HUMBERSIDE DN20 9PD

Inspection date: 10 August 2022

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children do very well in this wonderful setting. Parents and children are warmly welcomed. Children settle very quickly due to the excellent relationships between staff and parents. The baby room is calm and nurturing, with lots of cuddles. Singing and stories take place regularly. The older children's rooms and the gardens are a hub of activity, as children freely and confidently explore the space. The settling-in process is key to the setting's success. Staff work with each family and continue the children's individual routines and needs, while at nursery. This allows children to have a strong sense of belonging from the beginning.

Children are engrossed in play and seek adults when needed. They are confident, capable learners. Children are making rapid progress in all areas of development. Children manage their emotions and behaviour well. Children help each other to navigate conflict situations. One child was seen offering a car to two children, who both wanted the same car. The children happily accepted this and continued to play.

Staff support children's natural curiosity and follow their lead in a bug hunt in the garden. Staff build on children's vocabulary, literacy skills and knowledge by introducing new words and by using books to identify the insects. Children have a clear love of reading and are often found listening to stories and exploring books.

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

- Managers have an ambitious view of what children need to learn. They have taken time to invest in their team to ensure they are thoroughly supported and highly trained. Each staff member is consistent in the sequence of skills that children learn from room to room. This allows children's moves from room to room and on to school to become very easy, a natural step for each child.
- Children explore books about animals with great enthusiasm. When they come across an unknown animal, staff exclaim 'it's a bush baby', and they quickly search for it on the iPad. Together, they were able to investigate the animal and find out where it lives, what food it eats and what noise it makes. Staff use their knowledge of what the children know and can do. They then build on this, using information about the children's current interests. They find teachable moments and capture children's attention.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are excellently supported in the setting. The communication with parents and with outside agencies, when children settle in or move on, means that all children succeed and make strong progress.
- Children are confident in the daily routines and eagerly move from play, group time and mealtimes. This is supported by clocks at the children's eye level. The

children look at the clocks, work out where the hands are, and can often tell if it is snack or lunchtime. Children enjoy time at the lunch table with staff, and talk about their play while waiting for lunch to arrive. The children's manners and behaviour during these times are exceptional.

- Children are involved in cooking and preparing food, building up their understanding of healthy diets. They gather apples from the garden for apple pie. They wash, prepare and cut fruit and vegetables for their friends. They use a child-sized kitchen with a working sink and utensils, playing alongside a supportive staff member.
- Children hear language, such as 'you are strong' or 'you are smart'. This encourages them and supports their developing sense of self-confidence and self-esteem. Managers and staff understand that early exposure to new and repeated words boosts children's vocabulary and skills in later life. Some children are developing early reading skills, sounding out letters and reading simple words.
- Parents are very happy with the levels of communication the nursery provides. Many talk positively about the events the nursery holds, such as songs around the Christmas tree and the leavers' parents' evening. Parents say they feel involved in their child's learning at nursery and love that grandparents can also use the secure app. Not only does this allow the learning to continue at home, but also allows the wider family to start conversations with their children about their time at the setting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff know what would concern them about a child and the correct procedures to report such concerns. Staff are confident in explaining what they would do if they had worries about a colleague's conduct. Managers have invested heavily in the staff team to ensure they have a respectful professional curiosity. Children are active in keeping themselves safe, as the nursery has 'safety spies'. Each day, a couple of children are chosen to be a safety spy. This involves helping staff to check that the garden and rooms are safe for play. The children take great pride in this and are learning to manage their own safety very well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	955860
Local authority	North Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10117609
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	88
Name of registered person	Apple Tree Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905543
Telephone number	01652 658 201
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2015

Information about this early years setting

Apple Tree Day Nursery (Hibaldstow) Ltd registered in 2001 and is situated near Brigg, North Lincolnshire. The nursery employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 7, one has level 5, two have level 4 and 10 have level 3. The manager has early years professional status and qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, from 8am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Natalie Bishop

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked about what managers and staff wanted children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education in the nursery.
- A senior member of staff carried out a joint observation with the inspector.
- The inspector held a leadership and management discussion with the manager and director.

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.

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