

# Inspection of Abacus Day Nursery

Weddington Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 0EQ

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Inspection date:

25 November 2022

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## **Overall effectiveness**

**Inadequate**

The quality of education

**Inadequate**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Inadequate**

Personal development

**Inadequate**

Leadership and management

**Inadequate**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is inadequate

Children's emotional well-being is not effectively promoted because of inappropriate behaviour management techniques used by some staff. When children show challenging behaviours, some staff tell them that they are being silly rather than explaining why their behaviour is not appropriate. This does not help children to learn the rules of good behaviour. Activities do not meet children's learning needs. For example, staff give toddlers pre-drawn pictures of trees with glue already spread onto the branches, and simply ask the children to sprinkle some glitter over the paper. This does not allow children to explore their own imagination and creativity. Staff do not have high-enough expectations of children. This means children do not achieve their full potential.

Children's communication and language skills are developing well. Children of all ages enjoy joining in with songs and rhymes. Babies excitedly move their body as staff sing familiar tunes. Older children confidently make suggestions of which song to sing next. Children enjoy listening to well-read stories. Pre-school children confidently engage in discussions with visitors to the nursery.

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

- Children play cooperatively and share resources and toys. However, staff do not consistently manage children's behaviour in an appropriate way. For example, when children do not comply with requests from staff, comfort items are removed from them until they conform. This does not teach them how to behave and may have an adverse effect on their emotional well-being. In addition to this, when physical intervention is used by staff to manage children's behaviour, a record of this is not made. This is a breach of the early years foundation stage requirements.
- The quality of teaching is poor. Although staff are qualified, learning opportunities are not well planned. Staff complete activities with children but these do not have a clear focus on what they want children to learn next. As a result, children do not make as much progress as they are capable of. Although the manager completes supervision sessions with staff, the arrangements for ongoing support for staff is not good enough to ensure the quality of teaching is consistently good.
- Older children enjoy the time they spend outdoors where they develop their physical skills. Children confidently use the climbing frame where they learn to take managed risks. However, babies do not always have the opportunity for daily outdoor play. This means that not all children benefit from fresh air and exercise to promote their good health.
- Parents spoken to on the day of inspection express that their children are generally happy and settled at the nursery. They say that they have daily verbal

information shared with them about their care routines. However, the arrangements for sharing information with parents about children's current and future learning needs are less frequent. This means that parents are not fully informed about how they can support their children's learning at home.

- Managers and staff have identified children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They have established links with other professionals to help provide further support. However, weaknesses in the quality of teaching also negatively impacts on these children. This hinders their ability to catch up with their peers.
- Children develop their independence skills. They select toys from the well-resourced environment. For example, babies crawl to the low-level book storage and select stories of their choosing. Toddlers are encouraged to put on their own coat before playing outside, and skilfully help tidy away after mealtimes.
- Staff provide children with healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. These are adapted to meet children's individual dietary needs. Children routinely learn about the importance of good hygiene routines. They are encouraged to get a tissue to wipe their nose and follow the routine of washing their hands before they eat and after using the toilet.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good understanding of the signs that may indicate a child may be exposed to extreme views. They are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. Staff know who to report concerns to within the nursery and to external agencies. Staff closely supervise children, including during mealtimes and during pick-up and drop-off times. They maintain a safe and secure environment for children. Managers follow suitable vetting and recruitment processes. They ensure staff undergo suitability checks as part of their recruitment procedures.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

	Due date
ensure that all staff understand and follow appropriate procedures for managing children's behaviour	23/12/2022
ensure records are completed when any physical intervention is used to manage children's behaviour	23/12/2022

ensure the planning and execution of the curriculum has a clear learning intention for what children need to learn next	20/01/2023
provide staff with training and support to help them to improve the quality of teaching to at least a good level	20/01/2023
ensure babies have daily opportunities for planned outdoor activities	23/12/2022
ensure information is shared with parents about their children's current and future learning needs, to enable them to support this learning at home.	23/12/2022

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	200471
<b>Local authority</b>	Warwickshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10265630
<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 at time of inspection</b>	1 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	49
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	64
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Dr & Mrs S S Patel
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP902637
<b>Telephone number</b>	02476 345677
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	19 April 2017

## Information about this early years setting

Abacus Day Nursery was registered in 1998. The nursery operates on the outskirts of Nuneaton. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery employs 20 childcare staff, all of whom are qualified from level 2 up to level 6. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information received about the provider.
- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk to understand how the setting operates and how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.

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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