

Abacus Nursery and Childcare

Craythorne Lane, New Romney, Kent, TN28 8BL



Inspection date	5 January 2016
Previous inspection date	22 November 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children thrive in an exceptionally nurturing and stimulating environment. Staff provide children with an extensive range of exciting activities. They use the space and resources very effectively to meet children's changing needs and promote children's exploration through challenge and enjoyment.
- Staff work as a team to deliver extremely high-quality teaching. They know children exceptionally well and actively promote children's interests. Children make outstanding progress in their learning and are exceptionally ready for school.
- Parents benefit from excellent relationships with staff and an inclusive family environment. The manager and the staff team build exceedingly strong partnerships with families and share information to benefit all children, including the most vulnerable.
- Leadership is highly inspirational. The manager is enthusiastic and extremely knowledgeable about her role. She is passionately committed to the well-being and development of the children that she works with.
- The manager has excellent arrangements to identify areas of development and plan how to maintain and develop the very high standards at the setting. Staff benefit from very regular training, coaching and support that continues to strengthen and raise their outstanding practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to embed the range of communication methods between all staff and children to further enhance the excellent relationships.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the management and staff at appropriate times.
- The inspector observed, and engaged with, children and staff during indoor and outdoor activities throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a variety of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including a range of policies, procedures and children's records.

Inspector

Anna Kersley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager has very high expectations of staff and of the service they provide. The manager uses funding effectively and this makes a significant difference to the children receiving it. For example, she has purchased resources that offer small spaces to encourage children to communicate and develop their speaking and listening skills. The manager precisely monitors children's progress, and assessments are clear and accurate. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an excellent understanding of how to protect children's welfare. The manager and staff work in very close partnerships with other professionals to provide continuity in learning and care for children. There is a very strong and valued two-way flow of communication that includes the older children as they move between the after-school club and school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are highly enthusiastic, active learners who follow their interests and make choices about how they explore the world around them. Staff have an exemplary knowledge of children's needs and how to support them to make rapid progress. For example, they expertly question children to help them to develop new ideas and extend imaginary play. Children enjoy high-quality sensory experiences and are motivated by the enthusiastic staff. For example, staff observe children's interest in a mouse in the hedgehog house; they develop the theme into a variety of creative activities to help children consider different aspects of the mouse's world. Children are excellent communicators and they engage very well with others. Children that require additional support develop exceptionally well. Staff use a range of communication methods to include every child in the activities. However, very occasionally, staff do not make the most of these opportunities to extend the excellent interactions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are excellent role models. Children's behaviour is exemplary and they are kind and considerate towards each other. Children learn to share toys and activities using techniques, such as counting time with sand timers. Children are extremely independent and confident to take risks according to their age and ability. Staff expertly support them to manage tasks safely. For example, older children learn how to use sports equipment and negotiate physical obstacle courses. Children enjoy extremely nutritious meals together and learn about leading healthy lifestyles as they grow their own vegetables. They are exceedingly happy, settled and have excellent relationships with all staff.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress in relation to their starting points. They are exceptionally well prepared for the next stages in their learning and for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY309870
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	827163
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	76
Name of provider	Abacus Nursery and Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	22 November 2010
Telephone number	01797 369 287

Abacus Nursery and Childcare registered in September 2005. The setting operates from the grounds of St. Nicholas Primary School in New Romney, Kent, and is open from Monday to Friday during term time from 7.45am to 6pm. It incorporates a pre-school nursery and out-of-school club. The out-of-school facility is open for breakfast from 7.45am to 8.35am and after school from 3pm to 6pm. There are 11 staff working with the children; of which, nine hold appropriate early years childcare qualifications. The nursery offers funding for early education for children ages two, three and four years.

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