

Little Acorns Nursery

St Pauls Catholic Primary School, Sundridge Park, Bristol, BS37 4EP



Inspection date	2 February 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the 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

- Leaders and managers have good systems in place to enable them to reflect well on the quality of the provision. They value the views of staff, parents and children, in identifying areas for improvement to promote children's learning outcomes.
- Children and their families are supported very well by leaders and managers. They work in effective partnerships with other agencies to support children's specialist care and learning needs to ensure they make good progress.
- Staff complete regular assessments of children's achievements so they can plan for their future learning. Teaching is good and staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They plan challenging activities to promote their individual needs and interests.
- Children behave well. Staff show good examples of how to treat others. They set clear and consistent boundaries for children's behaviour. Children learn to share well, take turns and show respect and consideration for others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff, on occasion, do not extend opportunities to develop children's thinking or communication skills during their play activities.
- Staff do not always make the most of all daily routines to extend children's independence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the opportunities for children to communicate their ideas to further promote their learning
- make the most of everyday routines to extend and promote children's independence further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities and the quality of teaching throughout the setting.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including staff suitability checks, self-evaluation, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to monitoring children's progress.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of staff practice and discussed this with the manager.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

June Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Leaders and managers ensure staff are suitable to work with children. There are effective processes to help new staff to become familiar with their roles and Early Years responsibilities. Staff have training to develop their awareness and confidence in child protection issues. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Leaders support the well-qualified staff through regular support meetings and training to update their professional knowledge. This has a positive impact on children's learning outcomes. For example, staff have focused strongly on promoting communication and language skills with the younger children. Staff monitor information on children's ongoing progress well. Any gaps in learning are easily identified and children quickly receive the support they need to catch up.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, managers and staff support all children to develop good communication and language skills. Younger children especially receive very good support to help them become confident communicators. For example, staff speak clearly and use visual signing techniques to help children express their needs. Staff skilfully support older children to develop pre-reading skills. For example, children listened carefully for the initial sounds of words and confidently thought of and shared other words and names beginning with the same sounds. Children independently access resources to support and extend their play. For example, after taking part in an interactive story outdoors, children used their own ideas to extend the experience by making a 'river of water'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have secure relationships with the staff, which help them to feel safe and self-assured in the setting. They develop good self-esteem through the praise they receive for their ideas and contributions. For example, children displayed a huge sense of pride as their individual photographs moved along the reward board. Children are well supported to learn about the benefits of a healthy diet through the healthy and nutritious food they are offered. They have opportunities to be outside on a daily basis to play in the open air. Staff know the children well. For example, they offered sensitive encouragement to less confident children as they arrived to help them to feel more confident, ready to explore and learn.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those with identified needs, make good progress from their different starting points. Children enjoy their learning, are incredibly curious and they take pride in their achievements. They develop the skills they need for future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477249
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	974603
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	61
Number of children on roll	98
Name of provider	Little Acorns (South West) Limited
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0117 9326484

Little Acorns Nursery registered in 2014. It is one of several nurseries owned by Little Acorns (South West) Ltd. It operates from a building on the site of St Paul's Catholic Primary School in Yate, South Gloucestershire. The nursery opens from 7.30am until 6pm each weekday throughout the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are 13 members of childcare staff; one has Early Years qualifications to level 6, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and two hold qualifications at level 2.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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