

Inspection date	5 January 2016
Previous inspection date	12 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide an interesting range of activities that capture children's interest. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- The leadership team demonstrates a clear drive for the ongoing development of the nursery. Leaders have high expectations of staff and offer effective guidance and support to help ensure that outcomes for children always improve.
- Staff have effective partnerships with parents. Parents contribute to their children's learning and assessment. Staff keep them fully informed of their children's progress and achievements.
- Staff are motivated and actively involved in children's play. They help children to be happy and confident, to behave well and build good relationships with their key person.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not take all opportunities to encourage children to master small, manageable tasks to fully promote their independence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve checks on groups of children's progress in order to identify more precisely any gaps in their learning to help them make the best possible progress
- offer more consistent support and encouragement for children to undertake small manageable tasks to promote their independence more fully.

Inspection activities

- The inspector met with the provider and leader to discuss the management of the nursery.
- The inspector observed activities and staff interactions with children, inside and outside.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a sample of children's records, planning, and staff and committee suitability records.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, staff and parents spoken to on the day of the inspection, and of the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the leader of the nursery.

Inspector

Dominique Allotey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Leaders understand requirements and make sure that staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities. Overall, the leadership team is clear in knowing what areas to improve. Suitably qualified staff regularly reflect on their practice and identify areas for development. Safeguarding is effective. Staff who are qualified in first aid are deployed effectively so that they are on hand to provide treatment in the event of an accident or incident. Robust recruitment practices include staff vetting to ensure their suitability to work with children. Staff have one-to-one meetings and appraisals with leaders to promote their professional development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. Staff observe children as they play. They effectively monitor children to ensure that they make progress across all areas, although this is not always as fully precise as possible. Children really enjoy their time at the nursery. Staff provide stimulating activities and experiences to capture children's interest and motivate them. Children's social skills are well supported. There is a good balance of activities led by staff and activities where children can make their own choices. Staff promote children's communication skills well and children become confident speakers. Staff interact positively with children, and children are keen to involve staff in their play. Staff take these opportunities to add challenge to extend children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy a wide range of experiences, indoors and outdoors. They have access to good quality toys and equipment. Staff provide a warm, safe environment. Although they do not recognise every opportunity to encourage children's independence, staff are consistent in their support for children to develop good self-care skills. For example, children receive good encouragement to become independent in their toileting. Children are beginning to learn about healthy lifestyles; for example, they enjoy healthy snacks. Children have regular time outside in all weathers and staff teach them about good hygiene to promote their health and minimise the spread of germs. Staff encourage children to be kind to one another, respect others and form strong friendships. Staff prepare all children well emotionally for the next stage in learning. Staff have built close links between home and the school to provide continuity of care and to promote children's well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points and staff successfully promote their learning and development in all areas. Overall, children gain the necessary skills to prepare them well for the next stage in learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	510074
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	826228
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	Acorns Committee
Date of previous inspection	12 June 2009
Telephone number	01452 750467

Acorns registered in 1996. It operates from a room in Churcham Primary School in Churcham, Gloucestershire. The nursery opens five days a week during school term times. It operates Monday and Friday from 9am until 3.15pm, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am until 1pm and Thursday from 9am until 12 noon. Five staff members work with the children. The leader holds Qualified Teacher Status and the remaining four staff hold relevant qualifications from level 2 to level 6. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years.

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