

Appletree Children's Nursery

Apple Tree Nursery, 51 The Park, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 1DF



Inspection date	31 March 2016
Previous inspection date	10 April 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- All children make good progress and are ready for the next stage in their learning. Staff know children's interests and stages of learning well and provide interesting, stimulating and motivating learning experiences.
- Children behave well. They take turns, share and respect each other's feelings and ideas. Children have close relationships with their key person and other staff.
- The manager evaluates the setting effectively. She identifies areas for improvement and acts on these to help raise outcomes for children.
- The manager monitors staff performance effectively. She observes their practice and interactions with children and meets with them to discuss aspects to improve. This helps her to identify training programmes to extend staff's practice and professional development.
- Partnerships with parents, other providers and professionals are strong and effective. Staff share a wide range of information with them to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully considered how to implement daily routines effectively into the session to allow children time to explore and fully develop their ideas interrupted.
- Children are not always able to follow their own designs and experiment with creative materials, particularly in the pre-school room.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the organisation of the daily routines to allow children further time to explore and extend their play uninterrupted
- strengthen the opportunities for children to use their creativity, particularly in the pre-school room.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a range of documents including children's learning journals.
- The inspector spoke with children and parents and considered their views.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff inside and outside.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector conducted a meeting with the manager.

Inspector

Angela Cogan

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and her team understand the procedure to follow if they have concerns. The manager successfully identifies staff training programmes that are in direct response to children's developmental needs. For example, staff have attended specific training on meeting the needs of two-year-olds to ensure that their care and experiences are carefully tailored. This helps to provide younger children with learning opportunities that motivate and engage them. The manager ensures that the staff to child ratio is always exceeded to ensure children are supervised effectively. Staff work closely with other professionals to support children who need extra help to catch up.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are keen to take part and motivated by the learning opportunities that staff plan for them. For example, children engage in a range of superb activities outside and spend ages playing a target game and making mud pies. Staff are good at extending children's learning. For example, children listen to a well-planned story which staff link to movement activities related to the theme of the book. Staff make detailed observations and assessments of children's development and plan learning opportunities in direct response to their needs. Children's progress is tracked successfully to identify and target any gaps in learning quickly. The manager makes effective use of funding to ensure that all children make good progress. For example, children benefit from a session with a specialist early years physical education teacher each week to help develop their confidence and physical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and treat each other with kindness. The nursery is clean and hygiene standards are high. Staff keep the floors clean and ensure that children who need to sleep have fresh bedding. Children benefit from a very well-resourced outside area. They have daily opportunities to play outside and go on interesting outings and visits. For example, the youngest children visit the local library and attend a story session especially for their age group.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are settled and happy. They are confident and have good social skills. For example, children help each other to find a seat at snack time and talk about what they have done during the session. Children are independent and manage a range of tasks for themselves; for example, they pour their own drinks and recognise their name written down. Children develop a good range of skills to prepare them for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY336106
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1027950
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	0 - 8
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	72
Name of provider	Apple Tree Children's Nursery (Yeovil) Limited
Date of previous inspection	10 April 2013
Telephone number	01935 433301

Appletree Children's Nursery registered in 2006. It is situated near the centre of Yeovil, in Somerset. The nursery is open each weekday from 7am to 6pm all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and the Christmas period. The nursery employs 18 members of staff. Of these, 15 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and 4, including one member of staff who holds Early Years Professional Status. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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