

# Acorn Childcare Centre

MALCOLM SARGENT PRIMARY SCHOOL, Empingham Road, Stamford, PE9 2SR



## Inspection date

9 May 2018

Previous inspection date

3 April 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children are confident, motivated and enjoy exploring the environment, indoors and outdoors. They select resources to support their interests, demonstrating their independence.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good and children are supported well. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The manager and staff continually evaluate the practice in the nursery. They accurately identify aspects for improvement to support the ongoing development of the nursery. Recent changes enable children to enjoy more learning opportunities.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Staff invite parents to access information about their children's learning on the electronic program used by the nursery. This helps parents to continue to support their children's learning at home.
- Staff support children who have a special educational needs (SEN) and/or disability very well. They include them in all activities and work well with other professionals to support children's developing communication and language skills.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities during activities to challenge and extend children's learning.
- Staff do not make the most of all opportunities to help older children to gain a deeper understanding of online safety when using technology.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the best use of all opportunities to provide high-quality teaching to challenge and extend children's learning
- increase opportunities for older children to develop a greater understanding of online safety.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with children and staff during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Hayley Ruane

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager effectively monitors the progress made by individual and groups of children. This helps her to support key persons with their key children's individual learning needs. She identifies improvements to the environment to help extend children's understanding of electronic toys. Safeguarding is effective. Staff know the possible signs that a child is potentially at risk of harm. The manager supports staff well through supervisory meetings. Staff attend training to give them the skills and knowledge to use sign language with all children to support their good communication and language skills. Staff work well with the host school. They take children to use their facilities, such as the garden and school hall, helping children to be ready for their eventual move on to school.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff are well-qualified and have a good understanding of how children learn through play. Observation and assessment are used well to identify what children need to learn next. Staff help babies to learn about what plants need to grow. Children help staff to plant and water flowers. Older children have plenty of opportunities to develop their creative skills. Staff provide opportunities for them to paint using a wide range of tools. Children learn about how colours can be mixed and recognise that blue and red make purple. Staff encourage older children to develop their mathematical skills. They use language, such as 'one more' and 'how many'. Children count the number of beads they thread onto a lace and recognise how many more they need to make five.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Settling-in arrangements are adapted to meet children's individual needs and parents' wishes. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and are emotionally secure. Staff gather information from parents about children's individual care routines and prior abilities when they start. Children behave well. Staff give children gentle reminders, such as to use 'walking feet inside', to promote positive behaviour. Staff encourage children to share and take turns when they play alongside them. Children develop an awareness of the wider world. Staff arrange for visitors to help older children learn different languages, such as Italian, French and Mandarin. Children begin to say single words in other languages.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children of all abilities make good progress from their starting points in learning and some make better than good progress. This includes children who receive funded sessions. Children are confident communicators, follow instructions and learn key skills in readiness for future learning. They climb on planks of wood to develop their balance and coordination. Children learn about how to care for animals. Children pet the nursery rabbit and help staff to feed it. Younger children demonstrate good hand-to-eye coordination. They put pegs into a board, showing great concentration and perseverance.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY466379
<b>Local authority</b>	Lincolnshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1088183
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	96
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	293
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Acorn Childcare Centre Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP532860
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	3 April 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	01780766493

Acorn Childcare Centre registered in 2013. The nursery employs 24 members of childcare staff. Of these, 18 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. It offers out-of-school provision during the holidays and before- and after-school clubs during term time.

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