

Abacus Day Nursery

6/8 Emery Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 5PF



Inspection date	21 August 2017
Previous inspection date	14 May 2015

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

- The passionate and knowledgeable manager supports staff superbly to maintain very high standards in their teaching. They receive extremely responsive training, support and guidance to develop their professional skills. For example, staff use their extensive training to support children's communication and language skills very effectively throughout the nursery.
- Dedicated staff know the children extremely well. They use excellent assessment systems to precisely plan optimum challenges and focus sharply on children's next steps. Children make exceptionally rapid progress from their starting points.
- Children are extremely happy, motivated to learn and become completely absorbed in well-chosen activities. They form very strong bonds with their key person, build positive friendships and have a very good sense of belonging.
- Management uses excellent methods to evaluate the provision. They work cohesively with staff, parents and other professionals to provide high-quality outcomes for children. They collect and analyse data extremely thoroughly to develop comprehensive action plans for improvement and monitor children's progress exceedingly accurately.
- There is exemplary support for children who have special educational needs. Staff develop excellent links with parents, professionals and schools to support children's welfare and development highly effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop even further opportunities for older children to explore early writing when chances arise in spontaneous play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children across all age ranges as they played inside and outside with staff.
- The inspector completed two joint observations with the manager, evaluated the quality of teaching and discussed the systems for supporting staff professional development.
- The inspector spoke with the management team, staff and children at convenient times during the day. She considered the written views of parents.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's assessment records, the nursery's self-evaluation and staff suitability arrangements.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff have very high levels of understanding of their responsibilities to report any child protection concerns to appropriate agencies. There are rigorous recruitment and induction procedures to ensure staff suitability. Staff form very strong partnerships with parents and involve them in their children's learning and the development of the nursery. For example, following feedback from parents, management organised a 'twilight' session, which provided parents with ideas on how children learn through play and the use of online assessment systems, to show children's progress and enable them to work together very closely.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Observation, planning and assessment systems are exceptionally strong. Regular training enhances staff's already high standards of practice. For example, recent storytelling training has enabled staff to vastly improve children's confidence, such as using books with resources to build children's skills in predicting and retelling stories. Children show great curiosity as they explore the various resources, for example, putting the Russian dolls in order of size and exploring the sound of the cowbells. Children use the interactive pen competently on a map to find the different countries 'grandma' visits. Staff occasionally miss opportunities to support older children to use writing in their spontaneous play, for example, to create vouchers for their 'car wash'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children explore the highly stimulating environments and plentiful resources with confidence. Staff are very vigilant, providing children with clear explanations to help them understand how to keep themselves safe, for example, holding the banister as they descend the stairs. Staff have made vast improvements to sleep arrangements since the last inspection to meet younger children's physical and emotional well-being extremely well. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They learn to cooperate and take turns from an early age. Staff are highly respectful. For example, they give warning so children know what is happening next and can finish their play. Staff caring for babies consistently ask consent before helping them dress and undress. Older children relish small responsibilities, such as taking the register to the office, and develop a very high sense of esteem.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make rapid progress and they gain excellent skills for their future learning. Older children challenge themselves really well. For example, they explore and build with a variety of materials to create a show-jumping course. They listen to each other's ideas and take turns exceedingly well. Babies show great curiosity in the world around them. For example, they delight in following the path of a spider and learn new vocabulary to support their communication skills. All children gain very good independence. Babies help to remove outdoor clothing and older children serve themselves at mealtimes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	106892
Local authority	Bristol City
Inspection number	1088999
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	84
Number of children on roll	197
Name of registered person	Myrtle Tree Holdings Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP909880
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2015
Telephone number	0117 9772868

Abacus Day Nursery registered in 1996. It is one of two nurseries run by the registered person. It operates from a two-storey converted building in Brislington, Bristol. The nursery is open each weekday from 8am to 6pm, except for bank holidays and the Christmas and New Year period. A holiday club operates for school-aged children. The nursery receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The nursery employs a regional manager who holds an early years qualification at level 3 and a manager who holds qualified teacher status. They are supported by 15 members of staff. Of these, two hold qualified teacher status, seven hold early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds an early years qualification at level 2.

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