

Apple Tree Day Nursery

Spring Lane, Larkhall, Bath, Bath & NE Somerset, BA1 6NY



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| Inspection date | 11 November 2016 |
| Previous inspection date | 18 February 2014 |

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Good | 2 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | 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

- The provider and staff show commitment to ensuring good quality outcomes for children. Self-evaluation is effective in prioritising where improvements have the most impact for children, and staff monitor developments well. For example, changes to the outdoor learning environment have led to more children, particularly boys, using role play to develop their thoughts and ideas.
- Staff use their skills well to develop children's learning. They use their good observations to make effective assessments of children's progress, which they use well to plan for their ongoing learning. Children of all ages and abilities make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Children who have special educational needs receive good support. Staff have strong relationships with parents, and with other professionals, to support individual children. Parents are fully involved in their children's learning.
- Children are confident and have good self-esteem. They demonstrate through their behaviour that they feel emotionally secure. For example, younger children quickly bond with their key persons, who support them very well as they settle in.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for older children to learn about using technology for different purposes are not well developed.
- Staff do not consistently use opportunities to develop children's knowledge of number, especially the younger children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more challenge for older children as they learn about technology
- make better use of opportunities to further develop children's understanding of number.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children engaged in learning activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector had discussions with the provider, staff, parents and children.
- The inspector sampled required documentation and records, including safeguarding procedures, and assessed staff's knowledge of these.
- The inspector reviewed the effectiveness of monitoring children's progress and planning for ongoing learning.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider gives staff good professional support and encourages their development well. Staff implement new skills and knowledge effectively. For example, they developed 'now and next' boards to help all children learn about daily routines, which stemmed from training to support those who have special educational needs. The provider monitors children's progress well to identify and address any gaps in their learning quickly. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of local safeguarding procedures and how to follow these to help protect children from harm. Staff supervise children well. They record all accidents to children and inform parents. The provider uses accident reports effectively to review risk assessments to ensure children remain safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan effectively to provide challenging activities that encourage children's learning well. For example, responding to children's interest in animals, staff organised activities that encouraged them to identify their habitats, discuss their diets and compare their different footprints. Staff extended this further with a story about an insect, which encouraged children to choose to have a 'bug hunt'. Staff provide equally good learning experiences indoors and outdoors. For example, they provide a variety of portable equipment for mark making and writing, and cosy spaces for children to read or spend time quietly with friends. Staff plan good activities to encourage children to exercise and develop physical coordination. For example, younger children enjoy action rhymes and energetically move their bodies in time to these. Older children use crates and logs to create obstacle courses that they negotiate confidently as they climb and balance.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn to respect differences and diversity well. Children who speak English as an additional language receive very good support. For example, staff encourage children as they enjoy teaching each other words and phrases from their home languages, such as learning the names of numbers and colours. Children behave well. They learn about a healthy diet, such as when they help to prepare meals and snacks. For example, they regularly make bread and help to prepare vegetables for home-made soup.

Outcomes for children are good

All children develop the skills they need to move on to the next stage in their learning, including going to school. In the setting, children move to the next room when they are confident and ready. Children are very independent and are supported well as they learn to manage their personal needs. They serve themselves at mealtimes and decide what and how much to eat. To prepare children for school, staff work closely with parents to help them develop skills such as early writing.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY304453 |
| Local authority | Bath & NE Somerset |
| Inspection number | 1077308 |
| 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 - 4 |
| Total number of places | 44 |
| Number of children on roll | 24 |
| Name of registered person | Apple Tree Day Nursery (Bath) Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP910273 |
| Date of previous inspection | 18 February 2014 |
| Telephone number | 01225 318744 |

Apple Tree Day Nursery registered in 2002. It is privately owned and is based in Larkhall, Bath. It is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, all year round. The setting receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years. There are seven members of staff working with the children, including the provider. The provider has an early years qualification at level 4 and four members of staff have qualifications at level 3.

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