

Inspection of Mighty Acorns Day Nursery Ltd

Wexham Road Children's Centre, Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire SL2 5JW

Inspection date: 25 June 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children enjoy spending time at this welcoming setting. They chatter happily as they are greeted by friendly staff. They settle into their routines quickly. Children show that they feel safe and secure as they confidently move around the space. Staff build strong bonds with the children. If children are upset or feel unsure, they seek staff out for hugs and reassurance.

Staff have high expectations of all children. They are good role models and children behave well. Staff provide children with clear instructions. This helps children to understand what is expected of them. With support from staff, children learn to share and take turns. They play well alongside and with their friends. Children work together as they play. For example, children build sandcastles together. They fill buckets with sand and discuss how they will tip it over as it is heavy. They proudly show adults their achievements.

Staff provide children with ample opportunities to play in the fresh air and exercise. Younger children jump around excitedly as they dance to music and wave scarves in the air. Older children laugh as they run, jump and climb in the garden. Staff plan group games that support children to build on their existing physical skills and learn new ones. Children have opportunities to ride on bikes and scooters. This helps them become spatially aware as they navigate around the outdoor space.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Managers have recently reviewed the curriculum and have a clear idea of what they want children to achieve while at the setting. Staff know the children well and plan a range of exciting activities for them to explore. However, children are not always challenged to further their thinking. This means, children are not always able to make the progress they are capable of achieving.
- Staff are dedicated to meeting children's individual needs. They feel well supported by managers and value the focus on well-being. Managers plan training that meets the needs of staff and helps them to support the children that attend. For example, recent speech and language training has supported staff in using a variety of strategies to help children develop in this area.
- Parents compliment managers and staff for the care they provide for the children. Staff provide parents with daily updates about their child's day and support for when children are reaching milestones, such as potty training or moving to school. However, parents are not all aware of who their child's key person is or what the focus is for their child's next learning.
- Staff support children's speech and language well. They talk to children while they play or take part in planned activities. For example, children take part in a play dough activity. Staff talk to them about what they are making. Children

share their ideas and listen when their friends are talking. Staff use different communication methods, such as picture cards and simple sign language for children with speech delay or who speak English as an additional language. This helps to meet children's individual needs and support communication.

- Staff help children develop a love of books. They regularly read to children in small groups. Staff engage children in the story telling and talk to them about trips to the beach or going on an aeroplane. This helps children to recall events and extend their knowledge and vocabulary.
- Children are developing independence skills. Staff provide them with opportunities to complete tasks for themselves. All children, even the youngest, feed themselves at mealtimes. Staff encourage children to complete self-care routines, such as washing their hands.
- Staff help children to learn about the world around them. They plan activities so children can celebrate other cultures and religions. Staff use their own backgrounds and cultures to extend children's learning. They introduce children to words from other languages. This helps children to celebrate differences between themselves and extend their knowledge of the wider world and to build a positive self-image.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported well. Staff recognise and know how to report concerns about a child's development. They work well with other agencies to help children and families get the advice and support they need. This means all children make good progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support staff to strengthen the opportunities to challenge children's thinking and encourage them to solve problems
- develop relationships with parents further to ensure all parents know who their child's key person is and offer more precise details of the next steps planned for their child.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY405551
Local authority	Slough
Inspection number	10354578
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	78
Name of registered person	Mighty Acorns Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP529132
Telephone number	01753570310
Date of previous inspection	6 July 2018

Information about this early years setting

Mighty Acorns Day Nursery Ltd registered in 2009. It is located in Wexham Road Children's Centre in Slough, Berkshire. The nursery is open daily from 8am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. The nursery is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education to children aged two, three and four years. There are 16 staff working with the children, 14 of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Nicky Butler

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the managers and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke to/communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The special educational needs coordinator spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out joint observations of group activities with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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