

The Circle Nursery

High Street, Avebury, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 1RF



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

5 January 2017

3 April 2014

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

- Children are exceptionally confident and self-assured. They are extremely independent and develop excellent communication skills in readiness for school.
- Children relish playing in the spacious and stimulating outdoor play areas, which include resources such as a drawing hut, a reading tent and a mud kitchen.
- The well-qualified staff use their excellent teaching skills to enthuse and engage children. They take every opportunity to respond to their interests and extend their learning. Children make rapid progress from their starting points.
- Safeguarding is paramount in the nursery. The management team uses a range of highly effective methods to ensure that staff have an in-depth and up-to-date understanding of how to protect children from harm.
- The manager and staff make meticulous observations of children's progress and individual interests and place these at the heart of their planning. They provide exciting activities that inspire children to become active learners.
- The inspirational management team leads an enthusiastic group of staff who share a clear vision and ethos for the nursery. They continually review and adapt the provision to provide the very best experiences for children.
- Staff and parents share extensive information about children in numerous ways to ensure that their care and learning needs are met to the highest possible standards.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the existing opportunities for children to recognise their similarities and differences as part of their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and staff, both indoors and outside.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and provider.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation including the safeguarding policy and children's records of progress.

Inspector

Catherine Sample

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. It is high on the agenda of every staff meeting and the manager regularly tests staff's knowledge to ensure it remains comprehensive. There is an impressive culture of celebrating good practice and of continuous improvement. The manager carefully monitors staff practice to identify areas for further development and there is an extremely effective programme of internal and external training. For example, the manager and staff have successfully implemented training on planning to respond much more immediately to children's individual interests and needs. The manager has a professional coach to ensure that her own development is also prioritised.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children enthusiastically take part in a varied range of stimulating activities based on their immediate interests. For example, in response to children's interests, staff planned a play area based on the fire service. Staff are skilled at judging when to intervene and when to let children explore by themselves. For example, staff stood back when a child was enthralled by an activity with foam, water and sand. She carefully used a pipette to draw up foam and discovered it was not possible to do the same with the sand. She was so engrossed in the activity that when it was time to go outdoors staff took it outside so that she could continue with her exploration. Children have an excellent understanding of the wider world. For example, they confidently tell staff how to say 'hello' in other languages including Japanese and Chinese. However, the opportunities for them to recognise the ways in which they are similar or different from others are not extensive.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children of all ages benefit greatly from the nurturing ethos of the nursery. Babies enjoy plenty of cuddles and extra support as they start to get tired, and staff tell older children, 'You are such clever learners'. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They fully understand the rules, such as using 'indoor voices', and have excellent table manners. Staff use highly successful methods to prepare and reassure children who are moving on to school. This includes a classroom role-play area with photos of the reception teachers. Children lead healthy lifestyles. They enjoy nutritious home-made meals, grow their own produce and have limitless opportunities to exercise in the extensive outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are extremely well prepared for the next step in their learning and for school. They have excellent social skills and are adept at working together as a team. Children of all ages express their needs with confidence and older children speak up in front of others without hesitation. They relish investigating and exploring. For example, they poke frozen leaves to see what they feel like and investigate the properties of large ice cubes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY395132
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1068948
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	88
Name of registered person	A B Learning and Education Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP529047
Date of previous inspection	3 April 2014
Telephone number	01672539183

The Circle Nursery registered in 2009. It is owned and managed by AB Learning and Education Ltd. The nursery is located in the centre of the village of Avebury, Wiltshire. There are 14 staff including the owner. 12 members of staff work directly with the children. Of these, one holds qualified teacher status, one has a qualification at level 7, one at level 4, seven at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year. It is in receipt of funding for free nursery education sessions for children aged two, three and four years.

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