

# Oak Tree Day Nursery

Newton Park, Newton St. Loe, Bath, BA2 9BN



## Inspection date

31 March 2016

Previous inspection date

14 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 manager and her deputy have made considerable improvements since the previous inspection. For example, they have deployed staff more effectively to ensure that they meet the care needs of all children.
- There is a good balance of child-led and adult-initiated activities. In particular, adults give children time to think before answering questions, which helps staff to plan for the children's next steps in learning more securely. Children make good progress.
- Children form trusting relationships with staff and show that they are emotionally secure. Children learn how to behave well and get along with their friends.
- Parents are pleased with the nursery. They are well informed about their children's learning and development.
- Children benefit from good opportunities to increase their physical skills as they play outdoors and take part in well-organised activities, such as exploring the forest area.
- The staff have a good understanding of safeguarding issues and their responsibility to provide a secure environment for children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff miss opportunities to fully engage and extend children's learning as they play, particularly the two-year-old children.
- Staff have not yet fully organised the environment to provide opportunities for all children to extend their literacy and numeracy skills.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the planning and organisation of activities to provide even more opportunities to engage younger children and hold their interest
- review the organisation of the environment to provide further opportunities for children to extend their literacy and numeracy skills.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities inside and outside, including the quality of teaching.
- The inspector talked to the children, and held discussions with the manager and several members of staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of staff practice and discussed it with the manager.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documentation, children's assessment information, policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

### Inspector

Jennifer Cutler

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff understand the procedures and talk confidently about how to protect children. They carry out risk assessments for outings, and there are good procedures in place for dealing with accidents. The manager supports staff to ensure that the nursery's expectations are clear and children are well cared for by suitable adults. Professional development is having a positive impact on practice. For example, after a recent mathematics training course, staff shared information with others and bought resources to enhance children's mathematical development. The manager evaluates the setting well. She identifies areas for development and makes focused improvements. This has a positive impact on children's learning experiences.

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

Babies have plenty of opportunities to investigate and explore their environment. They enjoy outside play and are motivated to find out more. For example, they test what happens to balls as they roll them down and push them up guttering. Staff provide a continual commentary and help babies to develop understanding as they learn to paint. Older children develop their knowledge and understanding of the world by learning about the animals they might find in the environment. Staff know the children well. They make detailed observations and assessments of children's progress, which they share with parents. The manager and staff plan activities in response to children's learning needs.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Babies and children benefit from lots of fresh air and outdoor activities. They have high self-esteem, and feel confident and happy. Behaviour is good. Children share, work well together and develop the social skills they need for the next stage of their education. For example, they are curious about visitors, want to know what is going on, and are keen to strike up a conversation. Staff successfully promote children's awareness of healthy lifestyles. Children learn simple hygiene routines and enjoy healthy dinners. Staff give them good opportunities to develop their skills through daily routines. For example, children wipe the tables and make sure that their faces and hands are clean before leaving the table. The staff team creates a welcoming and positive learning environment.

### Outcomes for children are good

Children learn to take risks within a safe environment. This helps them to be adventurous and to try things without fear of failure. For example, babies hold onto the railings when they try to walk. Staff help older children to develop the key skills needed for school. They remember well-known stories and enjoy using their imagination when they build houses for the 'Three Little Pigs'. Children experiment with writing and make marks on their clip boards to describe the creatures they see outside in the forest.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	133089
<b>Local authority</b>	Bath & NE Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	1015635
<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 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	27
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	29
<b>Name of provider</b>	Bath Spa University
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 May 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01225 875590

Oak Tree Day Nursery opened in 1995 and operates from the grounds of Bath Spa University. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm, throughout the year. There are seven members of staff, of whom three hold an early years degree, two hold an appropriate level 6 qualification, and the remaining two hold an appropriate level 3 qualification.

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