

Oakland Hall Day Nursery

Oakland Hall, Hadleigh Road, Sproughton, Ipswich, IP8 3AS



Inspection date

6 September 2016

Previous inspection date

22 October 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider has not ensured the safety of children and practitioners with regards to adhering to fire safety regulations. A recent fire audit carried out by the local fire department identified a number of safety issues and the provider was issued with a Notice of Fire Safety Deficiencies.
- Arrangements for the supervision of practitioners and the manager are not effective or completed regularly enough to target the support and training required to raise the quality of teaching and to improve interactions with children.
- Managers do not make best use of information about the progress groups of children make to enable them to analyse the quality of teaching, learning and assessment.
- The quality of teaching is variable. Some practitioners demonstrate a secure understanding of how children learn and use their interactions with them to enhance their learning. Others are less skilled at communicating and interacting with children.
- Planning is not always effectively targeted to follow children's interests or individual styles of learning, which limits some children's progress.

It has the following strengths

- Practitioners in the older children's rooms are skilful at helping to settle new children in to the nursery. They make use of the information shared by parents to help children to feel safe and comfortable in their new surroundings.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents comment on the friendliness of practitioners and how they provide additional services, such as ensuring children are showered and placed in their nightclothes ready to be picked up. Effective methods of communication enable parents to remain fully informed about their child's day and to play an active role in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

Due Date

- | | |
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| ■ take all reasonable steps to comply with fire safety legislation to ensure the safety of children and practitioners on the premises in the event of a fire | 30/09/2016 |
| ■ implement effective arrangements for the supervision of practitioners and managers, providing targeted support, coaching and training in order to improve the quality of teaching. | 30/09/2016 |

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

Due Date

- | | |
|--|------------|
| ■ improve the quality of teaching by ensuring that all practitioners respond to each child's emerging needs and interests by guiding their development through warm, positive interactions | 30/09/2016 |
| ■ focus planning more closely on supporting children who prefer to learn in the outdoor environment. | 30/09/2016 |

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

- collate data and analyse the progress that groups of children make to identify any gaps in achievement between different groups of children.

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.
- The inspector completed a joint observation and discussed the quality of teaching with the manager.
- The inspector held a discussion with the manager and registered provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of practitioners working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Lynn Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The provider has not given due regard to fire safety in the nursery. A recent fire safety audit carried out by the local fire department has identified that the fire detection and prevention equipment, fire procedures and emergency lighting are insufficient for the building. Practitioners demonstrate secure knowledge of their responsibilities with regards to identifying abuse and referring their concerns to the appropriate authority for investigation. Practitioners and managers regularly update their safeguarding knowledge through appropriate training. Arrangements for overseeing the work of practitioners and managers are not sufficient. The manager does not hold regular supervision meetings with practitioners to help identify weaker practice and to support their ongoing professional development. She does not make best use of opportunities to coach and support practitioners to improve interactions with children, especially babies. In addition, the support the manager has received from the provider has not been effective in building her confidence or in developing her management skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Some practitioners are skilled and demonstrate very good interactions with children, supporting their learning well and promoting their communication and language through clear questions and explanations. However, other practitioners interact and communicate less effectively with children, especially with the younger ones and babies. While practitioners plan a range of activities and learning experiences, which are generally based on individual children's interests, at times they do not make best use of the outdoor learning environment to fully support those children who learn more productively outdoors. The time spent in outdoor areas is sometimes limited in order to follow the nursery routines, such as singing time before lunch. Managers do not monitor the effectiveness of teaching and learning well enough. In addition, they do not analyse the progress of groups of children to show where there are gaps in children's learning to enable interventions to be sought that will close any gaps.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The issue regarding fire safety has a negative impact on children's welfare. Children are at present playing and learning in an environment that is unsafe should a fire break out. Children generally enter the nursery with confidence and part from their parents and carers with ease. New children are provided with support and reassurance to help them to settle easily into nursery life. Children's behaviour is good. They understand the nursery rules and follow them well. Practitioners act as good role models, speaking to each other and to children in a calm and professional manner. Children's physical skills are promoted when they visit one of the two nursery gardens, one of which has been created to provide more natural experiences. Children also have opportunities to participate in swimming lessons in the adjacent swimming pool owned by the provider.

Outcomes for children require improvement

There are inconsistencies in the outcomes for children. Some older children develop the skills they need to prepare them for their next stage of learning, such as school. They

develop handwriting skills, use counting in their play and have some opportunities to develop independence skills. However, outcomes for babies are less secure. Babies and younger children are not provided with activities that are always suitable to help them make good progress. Children's individual learning styles are not taken into account through effective planning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY461296
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1072256
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	49
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Oakland Hall Day Nursery Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP532533
Date of previous inspection	22 October 2013
Telephone number	0845 838 8955

Oakland Hall Day Nursery was registered in 2013. The nursery employs 11 childcare practitioners. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 or 6. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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