

Mighty Oak Trees, Notley Green



Notley Green Primary School, Blickling Road, Braintree, CM77 7ZJ

Inspection date	26 September 2016
Previous inspection date	16 June 2014

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	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		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children of all ages are confident and independent. They demonstrate emotional security and strong bonds with the caring staff that look after them.
- Staff focus on supporting children’s social skills well. Children play cooperative games together showing respect and kindness to one another. For example, they check with each other whether or not they have been tagged out in a game of dodgeball.
- Staff communicate well with parents. For instance, information is displayed on the parent board. Parents receive regular newsletters and have ongoing discussions with the staff about their children. The youngest children have a communication book to share. This supports children’s well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make full use of opportunities to gather information from the children themselves when they start attending the club.
- Although staff attend training courses to support them in their roles, the resulting knowledge and practice are not robustly evaluated by management to further improve the care of the children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the information gathered directly from the children when they begin attending so that their interests can be fully considered
- undertake more rigorous evaluations of staff training and use the information to further improve the quality of care provided.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities indoors and outdoors and spoke about these with the provider and manager.
- The inspector spoke to the provider and manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection
- The inspector took into account the views of children and parents.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures that safeguard children's welfare. First aid certificates were viewed.
- The inspector reviewed the provider's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Elke Rockey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a strong understanding of child protection concerns and the procedures to follow. The long standing staff work well together as a team throughout the afternoon. There are regular staff meetings to discuss the needs of the children and the operations of the club. This supports children's well-being. The manager carries out sessions with staff to identify ways to improve the quality of teaching. Since the last inspection, the club management have addressed all weaknesses. The robust self-evaluation identifies ideas that develop how the children can have more say in the running of the club. Health and safety policies, procedures and risk assessments are implemented well. Security of the premises is given high priority, with staff checking gates and doors regularly. This helps to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy their time at the club. Staff value children's opinions. For example, the planning board includes ideas from the children and their work is displayed on their own board. Staff take an active interest in what children have to say. They encourage children to talk about things that are important to them. This builds children's self-esteem and confidence, and encourages them to feel valued and included. Children are motivated to learn new skills through activities, such as playing card games. They talked to the inspector about how they find it fun learning the new rules. Children's interests are planned for on a daily basis. They are able to spend long periods of time creating different types of rainbows with drawing tools helping to extend their concentration skills. Children express their imaginations. They use small figures of people and animals to act out stories with. The staff at the club work in partnership with the teachers at the school to support younger children's learning. For example, some children choose to do their homework at the club. The staff also encourage learning at home, such as bird watching.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly when they arrive at the club and eagerly get involved in their chosen activity. They place their photos on a board to show that they are attending that day, giving them a sense of belonging. Children of all ages display good levels of confidence as they easily chat with their peers, adults and visitors. Children have plenty of opportunities to use their whole bodies to play physical games indoors and outdoors. For example, children limbo under a bar in the hall and use stilts and skipping ropes outside. These good physical skills will help them as they move through school. Children have a strong understanding of good hygiene procedures and why, for example, we need to wash our hands. Children feel comfortable and safe with staff. They confidently discuss who they would talk to if they were worried about something. The children behave well and follow the routines ensuring they follow safety rules. For example, they wait patiently to make sure all children are ready before going outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY473104
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1073225
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Mighty Oak Trees Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901327
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2014
Telephone number	07800 593118

Mighty Oak Trees Childcare Ltd at Notley Green was registered in 2013 on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The out of school club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years and play qualifications at level 3 and above with one at level 6. The out of school club opens Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are from 7.50am until 8.40am and from 3pm until 6pm.

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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