

The Oaks Centre Ltd

Collier Row Road, Romford, RM5 2DD



Inspection date	1 November 2016
Previous inspection date	3 October 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Staff give children individual attention and care for them well. They help them to form strong attachments to their key persons and with each other. This helps children settle quickly into the pre-school and they develop a sense of belonging and security.
- Children quickly learn the routines of the pre-school and their behaviour is good. Staff have clear expectations for children's behaviour. They offer consistent guidance that supports children's growing understanding of rules and boundaries.
- Staff work closely in partnership with parents and involve them in their children's learning. They provide games and books for parents to share with children at home to help to close any emerging gaps in their learning.
- Children are taught well and they make good progress. Children are confident and active learners. Staff support their communication and language development well.
- Staff review what works well to identify any areas that need to improve. They have maintained good outcomes for children since the last inspection.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes staff miss opportunities to add challenge to children's activities and extend their learning fully.
- Occasionally children do not have an appropriate amount of time to fully explore resources and express their creativity and individuality.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to extend children's learning and enhance their progress further
- ensure children have appropriate time to experiment with sensory materials to help enhance their self-expression and creativity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation such as self-evaluation, suitability and qualifications of staff, children's progress records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking to them and by reading parental questionnaires.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff work well together as a team. The manager supervises staff well and checks their practice. She regularly observes staff interaction with children and evaluates the impact of their practice on children's progress. The manager has clear plans for the future development of the pre-school. She takes account of the views of parents and children when making plans for improvements. Staff have regular opportunities for training. They use their developing skills well to provide interesting learning experiences for children. Safeguarding is effective. Staff fully understand their responsibilities to protect the children in their care. They have up-to-date knowledge of child protection procedures to follow in the event of a concern.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe children and assess their developmental needs. They identify what they might need to learn next and check their progress carefully. Staff use their assessments successfully to plan activities that meet children's needs. They incorporate children's interests into their planning to motivate them. Children are eager to learn. For example, they excitedly hunt for small shaped mats that staff have hidden around the garden. Children identify the shapes and match them to larger ones inside. Staff use different ways of gaining children's attention, such as puppets, to encourage children to sit still and listen. Children are confident speakers. They enjoy practising their physical skills such as showing a visitor how they can hop and walk on 'tip toes'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are enthusiastic and excited when they run outside to play. They independently put on their own coats. They use their imagination such as when they 'make cups of tea' in a toy kitchen. Children enjoy making marks on a large chalking board and washing it off with sponges. Staff help children develop their physical skills such as riding around in small cars. They help children to learn about the natural world. For example, they teach them to plant seeds and grow vegetables in the garden. Children learn about foods that are good for their health and they serve their own meals. They learn about different cultures and traditions. They explore festivals, enjoy dressing up and taste different foods.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for school and make good progress in their learning. For example, they practise locking and unlocking tiny doors with a key and picking up conkers with tweezers. Children develop good hand-to-eye coordination and early writing skills. They learn to recognise colours, numbers and shapes. They learn about letters, the sounds they represent and develop an interest in books and reading.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY443861
Local authority	Barking & Dagenham
Inspection number	1059206
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	2 - 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	The Oaks Centre Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905815
Date of previous inspection	3 October 2012
Telephone number	02085979171

The Oaks Centre Ltd registered in 2012. It is situated in Collier Row in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. The pre-school operates on Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm for 51 weeks of the year. There is also provision for a breakfast club, after-school club, and holiday play scheme. There are four members of staff, two of whom hold early years qualifications at level 3 and two hold other suitable qualifications. The pre-school receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

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