

Little Oaks Margate

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mothers Hospital, St. Peters Road, Margate, Kent, CT9 4AN



Inspection date	25 January 2017
Previous inspection date	22 April 2013

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 are friendly and welcoming, and children interact well with them. This helps children to feel secure and supports their social and emotional well-being.
- The manager has an effective programme of professional development for staff. This helps to improve the quality of teaching and outcomes for children. Staff regularly update and refresh their knowledge and skills to continually extend their practice.
- Children enjoy playing outside and have good opportunities to learn about the importance of leading healthy lifestyles.
- All children make good progress in relation to their individual starting points. For example, staff challenge children effectively and help them to enjoy their learning.
- Children behave well. Staff have appropriate expectations of children's differing needs and abilities and consistently use age-appropriate strategies to help them learn how to manage their feelings and behaviour.
- Parents speak highly about the staff. They receive regular information about their children's achievements and guidance to support children's learning further at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Daily routines are not always organised effectively to provide older children with a good balance of adult-led activities and play that they choose for themselves.
- Staff do not make the most of opportunities to help children to extend their thinking and reasoning skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review and develop further the organisation of activities, particularly for older children, to provide a good balance of adult-directed experiences and those children choose for themselves
- build further on opportunities to extend children's thinking and reasoning skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including key policies and procedures, improvement plans and children's development records.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through discussions.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held meetings and discussions with the nominated person and manager in relation to observations of children's play, learning and progress.

Inspector

Maxine Ansell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of what to do and who to contact if they have concerns about a child. They understand the signs that indicate a child may be at risk of harm or subjected to extreme views. The manager takes the views of children and parents seriously. For example, parents helped to develop the outdoors area and built a 'bug mansion'. Staff are involved in the self-evaluation process and regularly review their room environments to identify aspects to improve. The manager carefully tracks children's learning to help ensure they make good progress from their individual starting points. She regularly meets with staff to provide support and identify any training needs. For example, staff attended training to learn how to use sign language to develop younger children's speech further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff complete precise observations and assessments to help them understand the individual requirements and learning needs of every child. They use this information to help them plan for the next steps in children's development. Staff encourage babies to explore their environment and the resources around them. For example, babies show delight as they develop their physical skills by rolling and chasing coloured balls. Children's early literacy skills are developing well. They learn initial letter sounds and practise the shapes needed in writing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported particularly well. For example, staff work closely with external professionals, other settings that children attend and parents to devise targeted plans to support children's needs. Staff have good relationships with children, who readily go to them for comfort and support. They support children to learn to be polite and kind to their friends. For example, staff teach children to use hand signs to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Children develop their physical skills well, such as enthusiastically playing in the stimulating outdoor area. Extra funding has been used to buy resources to improve children's confidence; for example, a karaoke machine and a mirror.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make consistent progress in relation to their individual starting points, including those children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. For example, they listen and sit quietly during activities when required. Children follow instructions well and confidently express their preferences. Their independence skills are developing well. Children develop a good range of skills to help prepare them for the next stage in their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY455548
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1063149
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	1 - 4
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	79
Name of registered person	Little Oaks Early Years Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP519609
Date of previous inspection	22 April 2013
Telephone number	01843234265

Little Oaks Margate registered in 2012. It operates from a large detached building in the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital in Margate, Kent. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education to children aged two, three and four years. It opens five days a week from 7am until 6pm all year round, closing for bank holidays. There are 17 members of staff who work with the children. Of these, two members of staff have early years professional status and 14 members of staff have recognised early years qualifications.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2016

