

Oaklands Pre-School

Northwood Methodist Church, Oaklands Gate, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 3AA



Inspection date

27 March 2017

Previous inspection date

26 January 2015

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

- The manager and small staff team evaluate their practice effectively to help improve the quality of practice. They have made worthwhile positive changes since the previous inspection to further support good outcomes for children.
- Children concentrate on activities for long periods of time. For example, staff provide them with opportunities to learn new words, such as 'chrysalis' and 'cocoon' as they read stories about the lifecycle of a butterfly and use props to tell the story.
- There are effective arrangements to involve parents and carers in all aspects of their children's learning. Parents help to assess their children's starting points, and staff regularly review children's progress with parents and share their next steps in learning.
- Staff know their key children well and place a strong emphasis on nurturing their emotional well-being and self-esteem. Children are well prepared for their future learning, including starting school.
- Children have regular opportunities to use the main large hall and outdoor play area and have fresh air. They enjoy taking age-appropriate risks in their physical play, which contributes to the development of good physical skills and their well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children have fewer opportunities to explore with toys and resources that support their awareness of technology to increase their understanding of the wider world.
- Staff do not make use every opportunity to help children to be more independent within the setting, in particular at snack times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on opportunities to encourage older children to develop their self-help skills further
- increase resources and activities on offer to support children's understanding of information technology even further, to broaden their understanding of the wider world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at play and staff interactions with children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector spoke to all the members of staff, at appropriate times throughout the day.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's assessment records, records of staff suitability checks and a selection of policies and procedures, for example, safeguarding and the complaints procedure.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took their views into account.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff know how to identify and report concerns for children's welfare. The manager has taken on board the recommendations set in the previous inspection and has made positive changes to help improve children's learning. For example, she has strengthened planning to ensure there is a good balance of child-led and adult-led activities. The manager monitors staff performance regularly. Staff have high aims for children. They work in close partnership with professionals to help provide the best possible opportunities for their progress and development. Staff establish contact and share information with other settings that children attend, and with schools, to help support continuity in children's care and learning. This helps to reduce gaps in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They provide an interesting range of activities that arouse children's curiosity. They praise the children for their inventive ideas, which boost children's self-esteem. Staff are particularly skilled at helping children to acquire good communication and language skills. For example, staff are skilled at building on children's language skills and helping them become confident speakers. For example, they repeat and reinforce words with young children. They introduce new words, such as 'stretchy' and 'trapeze'. Staff provide a range of opportunities for children to develop their mathematical skills. Staff motivate children to learn about measure, for example, as children count out scoops of sand to make sand castles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have a caring approach and are sensitive to children's individual needs. Children settle well, and are eager to explore and learn. Staff give clear rules and expectations for children's behaviour. They are good role models, and teach children to share and take turns. Children learn about their own safety effectively. For example, staff encourage children to keep their surroundings tidy, and talk to them about fire safety and how to evacuate the building quickly. Children are vigilant and look out for their friends when using equipment in the main hall.

Outcomes for children are good

Children confidently explore the toys and activities, which motivates them to learn. They concentrate well on tasks and play cooperatively. Children enjoy sensory play, for example, as they pour and mix glue and glitter to create pictures during a creative activity. They develop good literacy skills, such as practising to write their name, which helps to build on their early writing skills. They learn effective skills for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY301789
Local authority	Hillingdon
Inspection number	1085829
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	18
Name of registered person	Oaklands Playgroup Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907256
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2015
Telephone number	07582856701

Oaklands Pre-School Playgroup registered in 2005. It operates from Northwood Methodist Church hall in Northwood, in Middlesex. The pre-school operates Monday to Friday, 9.15am until 12.15pm, during term-time only. The pre-school receives funding for free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The provider employs four members of staff, all of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

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