

The Oaks Day Nursery

The Oaks Day Nursery, Bristol Road, Selly Oak, BIRMINGHAM, B29 6LG



Inspection date

1 June 2017

Previous inspection date

11 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Leadership and management are dynamic and the leaders are passionate in their inspiring drive to provide the best possible care and learning for all children. Monitoring of staff practice and self-evaluation is exceptionally thorough and focuses on specific actions that drive continuous improvement in this outstanding nursery.
- Children are extremely well cared for and happy with the caring staff. Their needs are exceptionally well met and their well-being is given the highest priority. One of the many strengths of the nursery is that children are secure and thoroughly prepared for their individually tailored moves to new rooms and to school.
- Partnerships with parents are highly successful and they are involved in all aspects of their children's learning and care. Staff skilfully guide parents to support their children's learning at home. They work exceptionally well with parents to plan the next steps in their children's learning and are constantly looking at ways to build on this.
- Children are enthusiastic, independent learners. They gain extremely high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Staff promote healthy eating in innovative ways and children learn the importance of self-care. They learn to take turns to speak in groups.
- Children develop their own learning styles and creative ideas in an exceptionally rich and varied environment. Staff observe and assess children's progress precisely and plan challenging experiences that build on their learning exceptionally well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the innovative ways in which parents are involved in their children's learning to extend the links between the nursery and parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the nursery manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the nursery manager, deputy managers and the childcare services manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and considered their views.

Inspector

Catherine Sharkey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Managers and staff implement robust procedures to help keep children safe and protect their health. Managers check regularly that staff know how to identify and report any concerns about another member of staff or a child's welfare. This practice is continually updated. Robust procedures help ensure staff's ongoing suitability to work with children. The well-qualified staff receive highly effective support from managers to improve their practice and maintain professional development. For example, staff model to each other aspects of outstanding practice used in each room. This has an extremely positive effect on the quality of teaching and all children's progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

All staff use consistently well-planned questioning that challenges children's thinking to a high level. Toddlers watch small flies in a wooded area. This prompts a discussion about how frogs catch flies and that children could catch some in nets next time. Children gain an excellent awareness of how to care for the environment, for example, when they go for a woodland walk and check the residents of their bug hotel. Staff ask children what they think made a web and which other creatures may be hiding in the crevices. They allow children time to answer and teaching is highly motivating. Children who speak English as an additional language and who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are exceptionally well supported to make the best possible progress. Staff work very closely with parents and other professionals to plan focused next steps for children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave exceptionally well. Staff manage this sensitively. For example, they help children to respect the fact that everyone's opinions are not the same. Children enjoy using the extremely well-resourced outdoor areas that challenge their physical skills and stimulate their creativity. For example, pre-school children arrange the inside of a tent with carpet and cushions so they can look at books and have quiet time inside. All children learn extremely valuable outdoor skills that contribute to their knowledge of how to keep themselves safe. Babies show they are extremely relaxed and comfortable as they settle to sleep. Staff rub their backs and tuck them up with their comfort items.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stages in their learning. They develop high levels of language and communication skills and are confident as they express ideas and feelings, knowing these are valued by staff. All children listen and follow instructions extremely well. Older children show a deep understanding of the rules and the need to follow these. Children make rapid progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY286105
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	1087939
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	120
Number of children on roll	170
Name of registered person	University of Birmingham
Registered person unique reference number	RP902361
Date of previous inspection	11 March 2014
Telephone number	0121 4147999

The Oaks Day Nursery registered in 2004. A sister nursery is located close by in the same area. The provider employs 40 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. Of these, four staff hold level 2, 27 hold level 3, two hold level 5, five hold level 6 and two hold qualified teacher status. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6.10pm. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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