

# Ymca Thames Gateway Oakfield Nursery

Oakfield Childrens Centre, Oakfield Lane, Dartford, DA1 2SW



<b>Inspection date</b>	23 February 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 establish secure and trusting relationships with children and they get to know their individual personalities well. Children develop a good sense of belonging.
- The manager and staff work effectively together to evaluate their current practice. Staff carry out research to regularly implement new activity ideas. For example, they regularly hold meetings to discuss how well activities motivate children to learn.
- Staff are positive role models. All children learn how to behave and are kind and polite. For instance, they say 'please' and 'thank you' with no reminders.
- Children gain good early writing skills to support their future learning. For example, older children confidently write simple words. Younger children give meaning to marks, such as when they experiment with paint.
- There is good use of the local environment to extend children's learning. For instance, they regularly visit the allotment where they harvest their own vegetables for cooking.
- All staff help keep parents fully involved in their children's learning. For example, they encourage parents to attend regular events and enjoy activities with their children.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently make the most out of challenging questions to give children sufficient time to think and respond, to help extend their communication skills further.
- The manager and staff miss opportunities to develop the monitoring systems to track the progress of differing groups of children even more effectively.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's opportunities to have time to think and respond to the good thought-provoking questions to develop their communication skills even further
- build on the monitoring systems further to track the progress of different groups of children to enhance planning even more effectively.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions of staff with children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including a sample of policies and procedures, risk assessments and staff training records.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff, and took their views into consideration.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

### Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager closely monitors the quality of care and teaching that staff provide children. For example, she regularly observes staff interact with children and provides them with helpful advice to support their future practice. The manager and staff are keen to keep their knowledge up to date and build on their skills further. For instance, they attend regular training, such as learning about the different ways to help children manage their feelings. Staff use additional funding well to benefit children's individual learning needs. Staff establish positive partnerships with other early years professionals. For example, they share children's achievements with other settings that children also attend. This helps to provide children with a good consistent approach to their shared care and learning experiences. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of the safeguarding and child protection procedures to follow that help protect children's safety and welfare. Staff ensure that they implement good health and hygiene routines, such as the safe preparation of nutritiously balanced meals.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The managers and staff closely monitor children's individual progress. This supports them to promptly highlight any gaps in their development. Staff provide children with good individual support to help close any gaps. Staff skilfully support children to prepare for their eventual move to school. For example, older children count with confidence and complete simple sums. Staff build on children's interests well. For instance, children who enjoyed a story about a beanstalk, go on to plant their own seeds and grow their own beans.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play happily together, share and take turns, for example, when playing basketball. They develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles and enjoy cooking healthy items, such as vegetable soup. Children develop good physical skills, for instance, they confidently make and negotiate obstacle courses. Younger children enjoy exploring the ways they can move in music sessions. All children develop respect and understanding of other people's similarities and differences in the wider world. For example, they learn about other countries' traditions as they make Rangoli patterns.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in relation to their individual starting points. They develop good early reading skills. Older children recognise simple letters and words. Younger children enjoy a wide range of books. Children develop a good sense of empathy, for example, they regularly enjoy visiting older people and completing activities with them. Children learn about the world around them. For instance, they experiment as they learn how to make shadows.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY496547
<b>Local authority</b>	Kent
<b>Inspection number</b>	1034969
<b>Type of provision</b>	Sessional provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	1 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	25
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	65
<b>Name of registered person</b>	YMCA Thames Gateway
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP521651
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable
<b>Telephone number</b>	01322 285097

YMCA Thames Gateway Oakfield Nursery registered in 2015. It is located in Dartford, Kent. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm, during term time only. The provider receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two and three years. The nursery employs nine members of staff, eight of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and one member of staff is a qualified early years teacher.

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