

Oaklands (Tonbridge) Ltd

8 Brook Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2PJ



Inspection date

8 June 2018

Previous inspection date

2 July 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

- Staff plan well and assess children regularly to ensure that children are suitably challenged across areas of learning. Children make good progress.
- The outdoor area has many exciting activities for older children, for instance, staff teach them about different birds as they watch them in the bird tree hatch. Children play cooperatively to make 'dinner' in the mud kitchen. They have good opportunities to run, climb, balance, and to move in different ways using a range of challenging resources.
- The management team supports staff effectively through one-to-one meetings to provide help and training, as required. For example, staff have attended a wide variety of courses, including a course on supporting boys' development, which led to more-successful practice and better outcomes.
- Staff manage children's behaviour successfully. They use a fair and consistent approach and share their expectations with children, who behave well.
- Staff teach children good safety awareness. For instance, children remind each other to wear safety goggles while taking part in a woodwork activity.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully explored ways for children to learn more about and to use technology to further their understanding of the world and how things work.
- Staff do not make the most of opportunities for younger children to make choices about where they play, to support those who learn best outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase children's understanding and use of technology to support their understanding of the world further
- strengthen opportunities for younger children to make choices about their play environment to support those who learn best outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity, with the manager.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children indoors and outdoors, and spoke with children when appropriate.
- The inspector tracked the progress of several children.
- The inspector checked some documentation and held a discussion with the management team.
- The inspector spoke with parents and staff, and considered their views.

Inspector

Jennifer Beckles

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Staff work well with parents. They keep them well informed of children's progress and provide good ways for parents to support children's learning. The manager reflects on all aspects of the nursery and has clear plans to build ongoing improvement. She monitors the nursery well. For instance, the management team regularly observes staff and checks planning and assessment to help ensure that children's needs are met well. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are fully aware of procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's well-being. They know how to report any allegations made against staff. Staff keep children safe. For example, they regularly check all areas, including nappy changing sections, to meet children's individual care needs. Recruitment process is thorough and involves good background checks on staff to assess suitability for their roles.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff support children's early literacy skills well. For example, they read children's favourite stories and allow them to make spontaneous comments. Staff teach children good early mathematical skills. For example, while involved in woodwork, children use mathematical language to compare the sizes of materials. Children recognise numbers as they measure different lengths and have secure counting skills. Staff support younger children's creative skills successfully. For instance, they explore paint and patterns using toy-car wheels. Staff provide successful ways for children to learn about different tools and materials, for instance, through woodwork. Children handle tools skilfully and staff support their language skills well by teaching them the names of tools.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well. Staff have strong, warm relationships with children and know them well. They meet children's emotional needs successfully. Staff help babies to settle well. For instance, they find out about home-care routines, likes and dislikes to provide routines and activities that meet babies' needs. Children learn to do things for themselves well. For example, babies learn to go down the stairs on their stomachs, supervised by staff. Older children help to set the table at lunchtime, pour their own drinks and learn to dress themselves. Staff teach children healthy routines, for instance, by providing freshly prepared nutritious meals and snacks, and daily physical outdoor challenges.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are confident and motivated to learn. They concentrate well on activities. Children learn to respect others from different cultural or religious backgrounds to their own. They learn to share and to take turns, for example, when sharing outdoor resources. They learn valuable skills to support their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY277977
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1128955
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	105
Name of registered person	Oaklands (Tonbridge) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910279
Date of previous inspection	2 July 2015
Telephone number	01732 353486

Oaklands (Tonbridge) Ltd opened in 1990. It is located in Tonbridge, Kent. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, throughout the year, except on public bank holidays. The nursery employs 20 staff, including the manager. Of these, 19 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for three- and four-year-olds.

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