

<b>Inspection date</b>	26 June 2018
Previous inspection date	27 July 2017

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 provider and staff have succeeded in improving the provision since the last inspection. Effective systems for monitoring and supervising staff to support them in their roles are in place.
- Staff provide a nurturing environment that welcomes children and their families. They work in close partnership with parents to support all children in their care and learning needs.
- Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They plan interesting and stimulating activities that are rooted in children's interests and build on what they already know.
- Managers and staff strive to deliver the highest quality provision for children and their families. They effectively identify areas to develop further. They implement changes to achieve goals in improvement plans and to continue raising standards.
- Staff are caring and kind and form good relationships with children. Consequently, children are happy and settled and are confident to explore the activities and environment. Older children especially demonstrate a real sense of belonging.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, staff overlook opportunities to extend children's thinking skills to higher levels.
- Systems for analysing the progress made by different groups of children are not fully implemented.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with more opportunities to link their thoughts and develop their own ideas
- build further on arrangements for comparing the progress made by different groups of children and checking that all groups receive the support they need to increase the potential for them to achieve at the highest possible levels.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the nursery's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Clair Stockings

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Leaders and staff demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures. They know how to report concerns regarding a child's welfare. This contributes to keeping children safe. Secure procedures for recruitment and checking the ongoing suitability of staff are in place. Since the last inspection, the managers have introduced regular supervision meetings with staff, and all staff attend regular team meetings. This helps to ensure that staff continue to understand their roles and responsibilities. Partnerships with parents and other professionals are strong. Parents express a high regard for the help and support they receive from all staff.

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

Staff have a good understanding of how children learn. They use their observations and assessments of children's development to plan interesting activities that help children achieve their next steps in learning. Staff share their assessments of children's development with parents and offer ideas of how parents can continue to help their child to learn at home. Staff respond well to children's choice of activities, moving around to deploy themselves effectively and support children well. They get down to the children's level and sensitively participate in their play. Staff provide many opportunities to extend children's communication skills. They engage in meaningful conversations with children and encourage them to share their home experiences. Staff introduce new vocabulary in context as they share favourite books together. Staff actively make good use of opportunities to incorporate mathematical learning. For example, during a painting activity, staff support children to identify numbers and recognise colours and shapes.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are settled and emotionally secure. Staff warmly praise children's efforts and achievements. This helps to boost self-confidence. Staff use information gathered from parents about children effectively. They provide consistent personal care and flexible routines for babies. Children develop healthy appetites and have good opportunities to learn about healthy foods and lifestyles. They enjoy well-balanced meals prepared in the nursery kitchen and know when and why they must wash their hands. All children have daily opportunities to be active outdoors. This helps them to develop a growing awareness of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

### Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They are enthusiastic and independent learners. Older children communicate confidently and considerately with each other, staff and visitors to the setting. Children choose their own equipment, which they treat with respect. They learn skills, such as writing their names. Children are well prepared for their next stage in learning and for school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY379463
<b>Local authority</b>	Southend on Sea
<b>Inspection number</b>	1110895
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time 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>	0 - 5
<b>Total number of places</b>	87
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	189
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Oak House Montessori Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP528400
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	27 July 2017
<b>Telephone number</b>	01702 611991

Oak House Montessori Ltd registered in 2003. The nursery opens Monday to Friday, from 7am until 7pm, all year round. The nursery employs 30 childcare staff, 25 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 6.

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