

Inspection of Oak Tree Day Nursery

58 Blairderry Road, LONDON SW2 4SB

Inspection date: 25 October 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children form strong and meaningful relationships with staff at this well-run nursery. Across the nursery, children are confident, secure and very independent. On arrival, they quickly settle, greet their friends warmly and immediately explore the stimulating activities on offer. Key persons make sure that they know children well. This helps them to plan activities which are tailored to children's individual interests and learning needs.

Staff have high expectations for all children, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. They place a focus on children developing their language. Babies choose books to read with their key person and excitedly join in with singing and rhyming activities. Older children sit and read with their friends and talk about their favourite books. They then go and write their own stories, based on the key elements of the story they have just read.

Staff maintain a calm and purposeful atmosphere throughout the nursery. They ensure that children understand how to behave appropriately and constantly emphasise the importance of sharing and being kind to others. Children learn about different cultures and beliefs, such as through discussions and by learning about different celebrations. This helps them to develop a better understanding of their own uniqueness and the world in which they live.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Managers have a very good understanding of the early years curriculum and how young children learn best. They plan a comprehensive programme of learning that takes account of children's individual needs and their age and stage of development.
- Most staff know how important it is for children to be given time and freedom to explore the resources and activities. This allows children to practise and extend their own learning. However, some staff working with the youngest children do not consistently encourage this. Also, some routines are not as flexible as they could be. Staff implement some routines without taking account of children who are engrossed in their learning and, as a result, this affects some children's engagement.
- Staff teach communication well across the nursery. They talk to children constantly, introducing new words and developing their awareness of language structures. Staff use questioning effectively to deepen children's understanding.
- Older children are well prepared for their transition on to school. Staff focus on children's social and emotional development so they are secure when they move on. However, some activities staff plan for these children do not consistently

challenge and extend their knowledge and skills. This means they are not always as interested in learning as they could be.

- Children develop their independence skills very well. They develop a good understanding of how to manage their personal care needs. For example, staff give babies tissues to wipe their noses and encourage them to throw them in the bin afterwards. Older children are encouraged to identify when they need changing and to get a nappy from their locker, which they then take to staff, who help them.
- Children show respect and kindness for each other. Younger children play alongside their friends, learning to share their toys. Older children listen carefully to each other when sharing books in small groups. They wait patiently for their friends to finish reading.
- Staff place a focus on healthy living. They provide many opportunities for children to be physically active, inside and outside. Children are keen to show the inspector how they can jump and stand on one leg. They talk about how much they enjoy running and climbing in the outside space.
- Staff organise trips to enhance the curriculum and broaden children's experiences. Children enjoy regular visits to museums, the aquarium, the theatre and walks around the local area. These activities help to provide some children with experiences that they might not normally have.
- Parents share very positive views about the nursery. They are particularly pleased with the daily updates they receive about what their children have been learning at nursery. Parents are also happy with the progress that their children make.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff understand their responsibility to protect children from harm. They can identify what to do in a range of safeguarding scenarios, including the action they must take if they have a concern about a colleague. Staff are supported through regular training on various aspects of safeguarding. There are comprehensive recruitment, vetting and induction procedures in place to check the suitability of the staff working with children. Staff are deployed effectively around the nursery and supervise children very well. Their risk management strategies are good. Children learn how to keep themselves safe at all times, including when out on trips.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop the teaching practice of some staff working with the youngest children, to make sure that all children have opportunities and are encouraged to fully

explore the nursery

- review routines, providing flexibility where possible, to ensure that the youngest children's focus and engagement in learning are not disrupted
- extend the provision for older children, providing further opportunities for them to extend their learning and skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY383631
Local authority	Lambeth
Inspection number	10301257
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 4
Total number of places	62
Number of children on roll	84
Name of registered person	Oak Tree Day Nursery (London) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP528564
Telephone number	02086744844
Date of previous inspection	30 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

Oak Tree Day Nursery registered in 2009 and is located in the London Borough of Lambeth. The nursery employs 26 members of childcare staff, of whom 16 hold early years qualifications at level 2 or higher. This includes three members of staff who hold qualified teacher status. The nursery is open each weekday, from 8am to 6pm, for 50 weeks of the year. It closes for one week in the summer, one week at Christmas and all other bank holidays. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Paul Church

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the nursery received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with staff and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the nursery.
- The deputy manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the nursery and discussed the early years curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact on children's learning and development.
- The inspector talked to staff and parents at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager, deputy manager and the inspector discussed the leadership and management of the nursery.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023