

Oaklands Childcare

Staffordshire County Council, Oaklands Nursery School, Oaklands Avenue,
NEWCASTLE, Staffordshire, ST5 0EX



Inspection date

4 October 2017

Previous inspection date

14 February 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

- Monitoring of children's learning is very robust. This means all groups of children, including those children who speak English as an additional language, benefit from teaching that helps them to excel in their development.
- Staff are constantly developing new ways to work with parents. For example, they have completed home visits for all children who have recently started. This helps them to forge strong parent partnerships from the outset and enables children to settle quickly.
- Staff use innovative ideas to teach children the importance of healthy lifestyles. For instance, they recognise children's interest in skeletons and teach them through active songs and dance about the different bones in their body. Staff then help children to feel and recognise their raised heart rate after exercise.
- Leaders carefully plan the use of the additional funding the nursery receives for children to ensure it has the best possible impact on children outcomes. Staff take the time to get to know children and provide activities that enrich their development.
- Staff have exceptionally high expectations of children. They encourage them to 'go for gold'. This is where staff explain to older children what their learning goals are and encourage them to meet them as quickly as possible.
- Children's behaviour is impeccable and they are extremely kind to others, such as sharing books when there are not enough for all children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- disseminate and share staff's excellent knowledge and skills with other staff working with different age groups of children to help maintain the outstanding standards of teaching, and monitor the impact this has on children's outcomes.

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 two joint observations with the headteacher.
- The inspector held a meeting with the headteacher and acting chairperson of the committee. He looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection, viewed their written feedback and took account of their views.

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The leadership team scrutinises staff's teaching and precisely identifies ways to enhance it to an even higher level. Staff build on their already expert knowledge and skills through professional development. For example, they have used information from recent training to successfully implement a new planning system. This has enabled them to plan in a highly responsive way to help extend children's emerging interests and skilfully reshape their teaching more rapidly. An example of this is when children in the two-year-old room find a spider. Staff help them to capture the spider and they eagerly search for a web in the garden to rehome it. Children are then able to spontaneously draw pictures of the spider and its web. Staff help promote children's reflection and discussion of their learning by sharing photographs with them of finding the spider. Children then sing songs about spiders by themselves and as a group. Together, children make spider web pictures using a range of art resources. The provider has recently relocated their two-year-old provision to this nursery. The headteacher is now developing more ways for staff working in different parts of the nursery to share their already first-rate practice with each other. Safeguarding is effective. All staff are extremely knowledgeable about child protection procedures. The provider follows highly robust recruitment procedures to help vet staff and to ensure their skills are of the highest calibre.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff's teaching is inspirational and worthy of dissemination to others. They are highly skilled at supporting children of all abilities to excel in their learning. For instance, staff work with a group of the most able children to enhance their literacy development to an outstanding level. They meticulously extend children's knowledge and use of literacy terms, such as blurb, author and illustrator. Children know and can describe the meaning of each of these terms. They know how to handle books, read from left to right and can read familiar words. Staff help to expand on children's fascination of the story through their highly enthusiastic teaching and excellent use of props.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in this outstanding nursery where they have the freedom to explore safely and develop their understanding of a wide range of concepts. For instance, children put on safety goggles and gloves and practise hammering nails into potatoes. They make links in their learning, such as the use of nails to hold a curtain pole fixing to the wall. Staff allow them to have a go and think for themselves as they use a piece of wood to replicate the wall and nails to try and attach the curtain pole fixing to the wood.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make outstanding progress and rapidly grasp the skills they need for the next stage in their learning, including school. They are keen learners and have a passion for learning. For example, children are eager to demonstrate that they can persevere like a 'persevering parrot' to overcome challenges. Children learn excellent mathematical skills. They can sequence units of time and correctly recognise numerals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY384053
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1102155
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	42
Name of registered person	Oaklands Childcare (Wolstanton) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP528578
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2014
Telephone number	01782 987075

Oaklands Childcare registered in 2008. It is run by a voluntary management committee. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday, during term time only. It provides care for two-year-olds from 9am to 12pm. The nursery provides wrap-around care from 9am to 3.30pm for three- and four-year-olds who also attend the on-site Oaklands Nursery School. The nursery employs 11 members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including two with a degree and two with qualified teacher status. The nursery receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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