

Otford Nursery School

Otford Nursery School, High St, Otford, Kent TN14 5PG



Inspection date	7 September 2018
Previous inspection date	8 September 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Staff establish inspirational relationships with children. They get to know their individual personalities exceptionally well. Children have incredibly high levels of self-esteem.
- Children develop very good communication skills. For example, they make up their own stories and rhymes and share them with their friends with great confidence.
- Children make good progress in their learning. They develop good mathematical skills to help prepare them for school. For instance, they count as they play and complete simple sums with confidence.
- The manager and staff review their practice together effectively. For example, they evaluate how well activities interest children and use the feedback to support their future activity plans. This helps staff to keep children interested to learn.
- Staff establish positive relationships with parents and keep them fully involved and informed in their children's learning. For example, they regularly share helpful early years updates, such as how to support children to prepare for their move to school.
- Children have good opportunities to explore and investigate. For instance, they carry out regular bug hunts and look at nature up close using magnifying glasses.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss some opportunities to extend children's early writing skills even further.
- Staff do not make the most out of links with other early years professionals to help provide children with an even better consistent approach to their shared care and learning experiences.

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 develop more challenging early writing skills to support their future learning even further
- build on the partnerships with other settings that children also attend to strengthen the consistency of children's care and teaching experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff interacting with children and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The inspector looked at written documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all those working at the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and staff and considered their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector
Kelly Hawkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The manager closely monitors the quality of care and learning that staff provide children. For example, she holds regular individual meetings with staff to discuss their performance and highlight any training needs. All staff attend a good range of beneficial training. Staff are keen to keep their skills and knowledge up to date and build on them further. For example, they have learnt about different ways to support children to develop their skills in technology. Staff use additional funding effectively to meet children's individual needs. For instance, they have purchased additional resources to interest children in outdoor play experiences. Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good knowledge of the safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures to follow to help protect children's safety and welfare. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For instance, they participate in challenging activities with maturity, such as climbing trees.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The manager and staff monitor effectively the progress of individual and specific groups of children. This enables them to identify any gaps in children's development promptly. Staff provide children with good support to help them catch up in their learning and make good progress. Staff help prepare children for their eventual move to school, such as talking about what changes they may experience. Staff build on children's interests well. For example, children who enjoy a book about pirates go on to act out the story and make treasure chests and maps to hunt treasure and bring their fantasies alive. Children have good opportunities to develop their imaginations. For example, they are excited to explore the 'fairy' and 'dinosaur' gardens.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are inspirational role models. Children are incredibly polite and their behaviour is impeccable. Children develop outstanding physical skills. For example, they explore and negotiate extremely challenging equipment with excellent confidence, such as tyre swings and climbing walls. Children develop an excellent understanding of healthy eating. For example, they are enthralled in harvesting their own healthy produce, such as courgettes. Children have exceptionally good opportunities to learn about the wider world around them. For instance, they learn words in other languages, such as French.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress. Children are independent. For example, they find their own belongings and choose their own play confidently. Children develop good early reading skills to help prepare them for their eventual move to school. For instance, younger children recognise letters and older children read simple sentences with confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475278
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10063839
Type of provision	Full day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	113
Name of registered person	Otford Nursery School Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP533489
Date of previous inspection	8 September 2015
Telephone number	01959522364

Otford Nursery School registered in 2014. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold relevant early years qualifications at level 2 or above. This includes one member of staff who has a relevant early years qualification at level 5. The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 9am until 3.30pm, term time. It provides an after-school provision from 3.30pm to 6pm, term time. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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