

We were very pleased with our OFSTED inspection. Our primary focus is always on the care and development of children and not on OFSTED's requirements, so we're not an OFSTED orientated nursery - having said that it is still very satisfying to get a good report!

Obviously OFSTED only have one visit to draw the conclusion and we have a couple of comments on the report. We are not in any way claiming that we should have been awarded an outstanding by OFSTED's requirements however we do have some comments on the 2 reasons they gave for us not getting an outstanding

“Although staff work well with parents overall to support children's learning, they do not encourage parents to share information about their children's learning at home.”

We have a very robust communication with parents, we have parent evenings, regular chats upon drop-off and pick-up and regular e-mail conversations and phone calls. The content of these communications includes sharing of information about the child's learning at home. On the particular comment sheets OFSTED looked at, the parents had not filled in anything on the comment section which as far as we're concerned is irrelevant and not in any way a reflection of our overall communication with parents. They chose not to comment and their choice should be respected.

“Some planned activities do not take sufficient account of the youngest children's interests and abilities, to ensure they are fully engaged.”

This is true, we fully accept that not every child is fully engaged in every activity every time, but generally they are. Having discussed this point amongst ourselves we actually cannot see how it would be physically possible with groups of children to always find activities which fulfil that criterion for every child for every activity every time. We would say overall children regularly do a range of activities which they are fully engaged in.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you wish to discuss any of this.