



The Parade Day Nursery Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY240565
Inspection date 07 December 2005
Inspector Kristin Hatherly

Setting Address 401 Wellingborough Road, Abington, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN1 4EY

Telephone number 01604 624641

E-mail

Registered person Maureen Margaret Townsend

Type of inspection Integrated

Type of care Full day care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding:

this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good:

this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory:

this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate:

this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE AND NURSERY EDUCATION

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are good.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Parade Day Nursery Ltd. opened in 1983 and came under new ownership in 2002. The nursery is situated in a residential area of Northampton opposite Abington Park. It serves the local community and parents coming into Northampton for employment. It operates from the basement, ground floor and first floor. There is a courtyard for outdoor play and the park opposite is often used.

The nursery is registered to care for 52 children. There are currently 80 children from 3 months to 5 years on the register. This includes 19 three-year-olds and 3 four-year-olds in receipt of government funding. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Support is provided for children who have special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week from 07:30 until 18:00. There are 17 full-time and 4 part-time staff working with the children, of these 18 members of staff have early year's qualifications and 3 are currently on training programmes. The setting receives support from the Pre-School Learning Alliance and an advisory teacher from the local authority. The nursery is in the process of receiving accreditation from the National Day Nurseries Association.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good. Children's health is well promoted by staff who follow effective health and hygiene procedures. They are developing an awareness of good hygiene practices and healthy living. Children learn the importance of regular hand washing at appropriate times such as after messy play and before meals. This sustains the level of hygiene and helps to prevent the spread of infection. Children understand the importance of good nutrition through frequent discussion before meals and the provision of healthy snacks and meals which includes fresh fruit and vegetables. All this contributes to their good health. Children have access to drinking water at all times which ensures that they are well hydrated and comfortable.

Children enjoy physical exercise and learn about the importance of activity in a healthy lifestyle as they join in free-play and regular walks and trips to the local park. Children move spontaneously with increasing control and coordination, developing an awareness of space around them and the close proximity of others.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good. Children are cared for in a welcoming and attractive play environment which is well resourced and where space is organised and used effectively to enable children to play safely and move freely between activities. They cannot leave the premises unsupervised due to clear procedures for entering and leaving the premises and the use of CCTV at the front entrance and in all rooms, which

further ensures the safety of the children.

Children are protected and their welfare promoted through regular risk assessments of equipment, premises, frequent fire drills and detailed risk assessments for outings. They have access to toys, resources and equipment which are appropriate to their age and development and regularly checked, cleaned and replaced. They are further protected and their welfare promoted because staff have a satisfactory knowledge of the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good. Children are happy, settled and enjoy coming to the nursery. They are confident and self-assured to work and play independently or in groups. Children are interested and consistently involved in a wide range of imaginative and worthwhile play opportunities both inside and outdoors, which promote their emotional, physical, social and intellectual development. Children are forming positive relationships with each other. They have good relationships with the staff who help them to develop their confidence through sensitive interactions and regular encouragement. Children behave very well. For example, they are willing to take turns and share. Their care is promoted well by efficient and effective organisation which is being further enhanced by the effective implementation of the 'Birth to three matters' framework.

Quality of teaching and learning

The quality of teaching and learning is good. The staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals, the 'Birth to three matters' framework and how children learn and progress. They are effectively supported by the manager who has a good knowledge of the Foundation Stage and the 'Birth to three matters' framework which is reflected in the planning. The learning programme and activities are planned to provide a broad and balanced range of activities which challenge children well across the areas of learning. Observations, assessments and evaluations are used effectively to plan the next steps in learning for individual children. Children enjoy planned, interesting activities and as a result they are motivated, sustain concentration levels and make links in their learning. Staff question children in order to extend their thinking and to help them consolidate their learning. Staff are friendly and caring and form excellent relationships with the children through a key worker system which helps the children to feel secure. They give regular encouragement and praise which develops children's confidence and self-esteem. They speak confidently to each other and adults. Children have access to a range of books and listen with interest to stories. They are developing their number and problem-solving skills through a variety of activities and through singing and rhymes. Children enjoy walks locally and regularly go to the local park. They also enjoy walks to the library and trips to the local shopping mall which develops their sense of belonging to a community. Children work well together, sharing and helping each other. Effective use is made of resources and accommodation to support children's learning. However, children do not always have a satisfactory level of choice over resources in the use of writing, craft and role play to enable them to express their own ideas and use their imaginations. Staff support children with special education needs and who speak English as an additional language in a positive and inclusive manner.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good. Children are welcomed and play a full part in the life of the nursery because staff value and respect their individuality and the family context for each child. They enjoy activities and resources which promote a positive view of the wider world. This increases their awareness of diversity and their understanding of others. Staff support children in sharing and taking turns. They have clear expectations and set consistent boundaries. As a result, children are able to negotiate with others and take responsibility for their own behaviour. Children receive regular reassurance, praise and encouragement which promotes their confidence and self-esteem. This positive approach fosters children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.

The partnership with parents and carers is good. Parents are given good initial information about the setting and the Foundation Stage. They are provided with information through notice boards, newsletters and daily exchanges of information. Children's individual needs are met through regular evening meetings with parents and daily reports on babies' routines. Parents report positively about the setting.

Organisation

The organisation is good. The nursery offers a warm and welcoming family atmosphere where children are happy and settled. Their care is further enhanced by the good quality organisation and leadership and management of the nursery. The premises are well-organised, safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. Indoor and outdoor space is laid out to maximise play opportunities for children. The required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety, and well-being is in place and is regularly reviewed, although medication records are not always kept confidentially.

The leadership and management of the setting is good. The manager and staff work together very well as a team and are well supported by the owner. Clear recruitment and induction procedures are in place. Staff share the planning and are committed to developing their knowledge through training. The nursery works closely with the Pre-School Learning Alliance and advisory teacher from the local authority and is in the process of seeking accreditation with the National Day Nurseries Association. Overall the needs of the children are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE AND NURSERY EDUCATION

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are good.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that written records for medication are kept confidentially.

The quality and standards of the nursery education

To improve the quality and standards of nursery education further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- develop the level of choice children have over resources to use in writing, craft activities and role play so they can express their own ideas and work imaginatively and independently.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk