



Hebden Bridge Private Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspector Frances Turner

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Type of inspection Childcare
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

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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Hebden Bridge Private Day Nursery has been operating under new individual ownership since 2004. It is situated in the old station house next to Hebden Bridge Station close to Hebden Bridge town centre. The setting is open each weekday from 07.30 to 18.00, throughout the year. A maximum of 23 children may attend at any one time. The setting does not receive the nursery education grant.

The premises are on two floors with an outdoor play area that is accessed across a cobbled area to the front of the building. Children under 2 years are cared for on the ground floor and children in the 2 to 5 year age group on the first floor. There are

currently 23 children on roll. Children attend on both a part and full time basis. The setting serves families from the local and wider areas.

There are five staff employed, including the registered person, and all work full time. Three of the staff have recognised qualifications in childcare.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy good health and a healthy lifestyle. Through teaching good practice in hand washing, using the toilet and by providing individual face cloths and towels, children begin to learn the importance of personal hygiene. Clear health and hygiene procedures in place prevent the spread of germs and infection overall. Practitioners understand and carry out many good hygiene practices. They establish rota systems for cleaning toys and equipment, maintain a clean environment and follow recommendations for safe food storage and preparation. However, the nappy changing procedure in the baby room does not consistently promote good hygiene and there is insufficient ventilation to ensure babies receive good amounts of fresh air. The systems for accident, medication, first aid and sickness encourage children's health and well-being but do not include details of existing injuries.

Arrangements for food and drink take into account individual needs. Healthy and nutritious meals, essential for growth and healthy development, accommodate children's preferences. Mealtimes are social occasions. Children benefit from sitting in family style groups with adults, peers and babies. There is a relaxed atmosphere where babies attempt to feed themselves and older children talk about the day's activities.

Daily outdoor opportunities provide children and babies with good amounts of space to be physically active. Children become skilled at peddling bikes, kicking balls, throwing beanbags and using apparatus. Babies crawl or walk with support from adults and appropriate equipment and explore the outdoors.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming, secure and safe indoor and outdoor environment. They benefit from the safety equipment in place such as the safety gate protecting entry to steps, smoke and fire alarms, socket covers and radiator guards. Practitioner's regularly review safe practice such as fire evacuation procedures and hazards and maintain appropriate documentation.

Children safely access a wide range of activities and experiences. They select toys from low-level storage systems, enjoy trips to feed the ducks with increased adult to child ratios and play outside in the fully enclosed and secure playground. Though appropriate policies document procedures for transporting children, written parental

permission is not obtained.

Visitors such as road safety and gentle adult teachings raise children's awareness of their own safety. Children are sensitively reminded of safe practice such as not walking behind swings because they might get hurt and to stack chairs carefully after lunch to avoid trapping their fingers. Adults, who are suitable, understand what to do if they have any concerns regarding child protection and therefore protect children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's care, learning and play are supported by adults who plan and provide first-hand experiences for children both indoors and outside. Activity plans incorporate the foundation stage and Birth to three matters framework to help practitioners monitor children's progress and achievement. Time, space, staff and resources give children good opportunities to be energetic, explore freely, rest and enjoy quiet activities. Children in the 2 to 5 age group enjoy finding out about countries as they role-play in their travel agents. They develop hand-eye coordination and learn about colour as they draw with pencils and they explore nature, moving logs to take a closer look at snails, worms and insects. Babies explore treasure baskets abundant with natural materials, jump and bounce in the ball pool and explore the textures of water, paint and sand.

All children and babies attending are happy and settled. They hold strong positive relationship with adults and develop friendships with peers. Plenty of individual attention and close comfort provides children with reassurance and a feeling of self-worth. Children have high self-esteem, they eagerly participate in activities, for example when nominating themselves to sing to others, confidently guessing during games and telling staff about their exciting home experiences such as impending birthday parties.

All children benefit from consistent carers who understand their individual skills and abilities. Staff are quick to praise and encourage. They provide an environment that promotes positive behaviour through challenge, interest and inclusion. In result, children's behaviour is good. Gentle adult direction encourages them to learn right from wrong appropriate to individual levels of understanding.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Practitioners highly value children, they recognise and respect individuality and encourage children's contributions to the setting. A sense of belonging is effectively fostered through the display of children's pictures, sharing photographs showing children playing together and simple self-registration systems. Babies and children are encouraged to bring items from home, such as comforters, because adults recognise this may help children to settle and feel secure in the setting. Individual

care needs are well documented and followed throughout the day demonstrating adults' good understanding and relationships with children.

The setting appropriately promotes equal opportunities through policy, aims and practice. The registered person is aware of and developing SENCo roles within the setting alongside the current procedures, with local authority support. Children develop a positive attitude to others and develop a good understanding about the wider world and community. for example through celebrating festivals, tasting foods and accessing a good range of resources that show positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability. Through activities involving sharing and taking turns children learn to work cooperatively within the group.

There is a good partnership with parents. Systems to inform an update include newsletters, display boards and notices. A clear staff structure informs parents of carers and daily informal discussion alongside written diaries provides two-way information between home and the setting.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's needs are met through effective organisation. The robust recruitment procedures and additional policies work in practice to underpin their health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. Experienced and motivated staff, who fully understand child development, care for children. The informal staff training plans demonstrate a commitment to professional development, further enhancing the quality of care children receive. The registered person appropriately monitors and reviews the service provided as ongoing good practice.

The established yet flexible daily routines and good adult to child ratio supports children's learning and play and enables positive close relationships to develop. Children benefit from well-deployed staff, who consistently interact with them and give effective support and encouragement, to help them feel secure and confident. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children attending.

Improvements since the last inspection

not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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.

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):

- improve health and hygiene procedures including the nappy changing procedure and ventilation system in the baby room and records of existing injuries for all children
- gain written permission to transport children.

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