



## Tinysaurus Nursery Ltd

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY317206
<b>Inspection date</b>	13 July 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Fler Wright
<b>Setting Address</b>	142 New Church Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 4JD
<b>Telephone number</b>	01273 423666
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<b>Registered person</b>	Tinysaurus Nursery Ltd
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Integrated
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Tinysaurus Nursery was registered in 2005. It is privately owned and operates from a converted house in Hove, East Sussex. There is a secure outdoor play area available. A maximum of 25 children may attend the nursery at any one time. Sessions run from 08:00-18:00, five days a week, for 51 weeks of the year.

There are currently 54 children aged under five years on roll. Of these, five children receive funding for early education. The nursery is able to support children with

learning difficulties and/or disabilities and currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs nine members of staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications and two are working towards a qualification. A full time volunteer also works with the children.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

There are good hygiene procedures in place. The environment is very clean and tidy and children know why they need to wash their hands before and after eating or cooking. This helps to prevent the spread of infection. Children are well protected from the sun as they wear sun cream and hats in the garden, and know that they burn if they don't stay in the shade or take appropriate precautions.

Nutritious home cooked meals provided by an in-house chef help to ensure children's dietary needs are met. Menus are displayed helping to keep parents informed about what their children are eating and a vegetarian meal is always on offer. Children's independence is encouraged at snack times as they decide for themselves what they eat and how much of it they select, and older children help to pour their own drinks. Fresh water is available to all children at all times near to where they play. Older children confidently help themselves, encouraging them to think about their personal needs. Children are further encouraged to think about how to take care of themselves as they are able to visit the toilet independently and freely select tissues to wipe their own noses, which they dispose of appropriately. Topics such as 'ourselves' help them to learn about their own bodies and what they can do.

Children freely enjoy a range of activities that help to develop their physical skills. The environment is well set up to allow for physical play and children confidently balance on planks of wood, step through tyres and climb over bridges in the garden. They are competent when using sit and ride toys and show co-ordination when jumping and running. They respond and move enthusiastically during music and movement sessions. Their fine motor skills are developing well, as they confidently select and use small equipment such as pens, pencil, rulers and scissors.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children benefit from playing in a spacious well-organised environment which allows them to move around and play safely. The environment is extremely stimulating with an excellent variety of child size equipment, displays and photos of children and their work helping them to celebrate their achievements and feel at home. Staff set up the garden as an effective extension to the children's play environment. They successfully organise the activities and resources inside and out to ensure children find their surroundings fun and inspiring. The furniture is organised to ensure children

have areas for different experiences. For example, there is an exploration area, home corner, creative area and maths area, helping to ensure all children's developmental needs are met. There are a very good variety of toys and resources that meet the needs of the varying ages and developmental needs of the children attending the nursery.

Staff have a good understanding of safety and potential hazards. Staff deployment is effective and guarantees children are well-supervised and safe at all times. The premises are very secure and there are good procedures in place to prevent unwanted visitors gaining access to the premises. The web cam and CCTV helps to further ensure children are well protected.

Staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and know what action to take if they have concerns about a child in their care. This ensures they quickly recognise when a child is in danger and can act in the child's best interests.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are very happy, relaxed and confident. They are involved in a broad and exciting range of activities and experiences that help to encourage their learning and development. There is a good balance between quiet and active play, and they spend time concentrating on self-chosen activities showing their needs are appropriately catered for.

Children are interested in the vast amount of activities and experiences available and the way that the staff organise the space and resources helps children take to initiative and develop increasing confidence and independence. Children have access to a very good range of good quality, stimulating toys that provide both balance and challenge. Equipment is plentiful and is staged to allow children to use it in a variety of interesting ways. For example, children are able to decide for themselves how they want to play with the doctors surgery or hairdressers that are set up outside as role play activities. Everything that they could need or want relating to the activity is to hand; and they take much pleasure in using pretend bottles of shampoo, conditioner and hairspray, a non working shower attachment, an eye and number chart in the doctors, first aid box with bandages and a hospital bed. This helps to ensure children become involved in meaningful and purposeful play.

The atmosphere is very calm and relaxed. Children are able to move freely between equipment and areas of the nursery, and are not pressured into participating in the structured activities. This means the play is very child initiated, helping to increase children's enjoyment and potential.

Babies needs are met well. Birth to Three Matters is being implemented and staff use the framework to plan an exciting range of activities and experiences to cater for children's ever changing needs. Babies take much enjoyment in using their hands to experiment with shaving foam and are curious when feeling and tasting flavoured ice cubes.

Staff are very enthusiastic and spend time playing with children, helping them to develop new skills and make good progress in their learning. Positive interaction, such as 'you are so good at sharing' and 'can we hear your lovely singing voices?' helps to increase children's self-esteem. Staff are very effective in their interaction with children of all ages. They know each child well and ask a wealth of questions to encourage learning and development. They continually ask children about themselves, what colour things are, what letters they see and how things feel. This helps to encourage all areas of learning and development. Children relate very well to staff and to each other. They confidently approach staff for support indicating trusting relationships are built.

## Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Children make good progress towards the early learning goals as the activities and experiences on offer cover the areas of learning on more than one occasion each day. Staff have attended training in the foundation stage increasing the opportunities for children's learning to develop. The planning helps to ensure children's developmental needs are met, as it includes ways activities are differentiated and ensures all areas of learning are covered. Staff have recently changed the planning format and intend to keep working on it to ensure the overall plan of structured activities is clear, and information is easy to refer to. Staff interact with children well and offer good support as and when required. They understand the importance of children doing things for themselves and know children learn through interacting with each other during their play. Staff make frequent observations of children whilst they participate in activities and free play, which means they know each child well. These observations are then transferred into an assessment profile that the nursery are in the process of currently improving. This enables staff to effectively plan the next steps in children's learning.

Children have built up strong relationships with their peers and the staff at the nursery. Staff listen with interest to children's thoughts and stories and ask a wealth of open-ended questions to help extend their learning. Children demonstrate a sense of pride in their work and achievements. They help to clear up after activities and are encouraged to work together. Children behave well and are able to say sorry to ensure conflicts are resolved. They enjoy books and take great pleasure in listening to stories and reading on their own. They enjoy singing and are able to join in with songs and anticipate important phrases. Children have lots of opportunities to recognise their own names. Staff help children to sound out the first letters of their names, and ask children to think about other words that start with the same sounds. There are numerous posters and displays around the environment that help with children's number and letter recognition.

Children are confident in counting to 10 and beyond, and independently use counting and calculation in their every day play. For example, they count how many cups they need at lunch times. Children are confident in using information technology and spend time concentrating on using equipment such as the programmable bug. They refer to the strategically placed instructions to aid them in their play. Children take much pleasure in examining objects and living things to find out more about them in the exploration area. Children understand past and present, and discuss people, places and events in their lives. Books and topics help children to learn about the

world around them, although the resources and experiences could be further increased in order to help children learn more about equality. Children freely express their creative skills both in the creative area and in the garden. They help themselves to a variety of different mediums such as paints, pencils and glitter pens. They select their own paper and writing implements and have access to various items such as rulers, envelopes and tissue paper to help use their imaginations and express themselves creatively. Children thoroughly enjoy using the well resourced role play areas that are set up as a hairdressers and doctors. They also enjoy using objects to represent others, for example, using an ice cream tub as an oven when baking play dough cakes. Children are all motivated, keen to learn and enthusiastically participate in the activities and experiences available.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered. Children are treated with respect and are made to feel good about themselves. Photographs of their friends and low-level displays of their work help to give them an important sense of belonging. Staff encourage all children to participate in the activities provided, which ensures they all have an equal opportunity to maximise their enjoyment and potential. Sensitive use of stories and resources including puppets, help children to become aware of their feelings, diversity and the needs of others. However, the variety of activities, resources and experiences could be further increased in order to add to children's understanding of equality.

The nursery have two designated special educational needs co-ordinators which helps to ensure the nursery are able to cater for children's individual requirements. They work closely with outside agencies in order to help children progress in the environment. Children are well behaved as they benefit from some helpful explanations from staff that help them to learn to understand the differences between right and wrong. They show a good understanding of working co-operatively and of responsible behaviour as they share popular resources such as role play materials and take turns in games. Staff offer lots of praise and encouragement to children which helps to build their confidence and self-esteem.

The partnership with parents and carers is good. Parents are extremely happy with the care provided. They particularly like the day sheets that keep them well informed about what their children have been doing during the day, the homely atmosphere, and the friendliness of the staff. Regular newsletters help to keep parents informed about what is going on at the nursery. Parents have an awareness of the Foundation Stage, Birth to Three Matters and the developmental progress of their children, although this will be further improved once the planned displays go up, and the first parents evenings are carried out. Parents feel involved in their child's learning as six-monthly reports are completed about each child's developmental progress. The white board in the entrance hall clearly states the topics and letters of the week, encouraging parents to continue the themes at home or bring things in for the children to discuss.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The paperwork is very organised. All mandatory records are in place, are confidential and well maintained. This helps to ensure the safe and effective management of the setting in order to promote children's welfare. The uncollected child policy requires some minor updating in order for the procedure to be further clarified. The register is completed accurately for children, although the way the staff record themselves makes it a little unclear exactly who is looking after the children at any given time.

Children benefit from a well-organised environment where they receive good adult support to help them feel secure and confident. Staff are well deployed which helps to ensure children are well-supervised and safe at all times.

Leadership and management is good. Staff support each other well and have regular meetings helping to ensure consistency of care. There is a designated member of staff employed to prepare all snacks, meals and drinks throughout the day relieving staff of these duties. This helps them to spend more time with the children, although the 'floater' also plays an active role in caring for the children by reading stories and playing games. This helps to ensure all children benefit from effective organisation. Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities and are regularly 'tested' to ensure their knowledge is of an acceptable standard. Staff have a strong desire to continually improve the quality of care and education they offer to children. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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):

- continue to extend the range of activities, resources and experiences available to children to further promote equality
- update the uncollected child policy and ensure the registers clearly show exactly who is working with the children at any given time.

### **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):

- continue to implement the new planning and observation systems
- continue to develop the partnership with parents to ensure they are given opportunities to increase their knowledge on the foundation stage and the developmental progress of their 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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)