



Nelly's Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY330892
Inspection date	19 October 2006
Inspector	Cheryl Walker
Setting Address	All Saints Church, Rosendale Road, London, SE21 8LN
Telephone number	02087613535
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Registered person	Sarah Hill
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 outstanding. 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?

Nelly's Nursery registered in 2006 and is one of two nurseries run by the provider. The nursery operates from three halls located on the ground floor of church premises, which have been refurbished to accommodate the nursery. It is situated in West Dulwich, within the London Borough of Lambeth. A maximum of 48 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery opens each week day from 07:30 to 18:30 for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 68 children aged from three months to under five years on roll. Of these, nine children receive funding for early education. The nursery supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery currently employs 16 staff. Including the manager, all except one of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children are well protected from the risk of infection because staff are excellent role models in encouraging good hygiene practice. They consistently implement the comprehensive hygiene procedures to ensure that the environment is a safe and clean place for the children to play. This helps the children to develop a very good understanding of how to keep themselves healthy. For example, children help each other to independently access the liquid soap in the bathroom and encourage their peers to 'wash it all off to get the germs off'. Older children access tissues independently and dispose of them appropriately, reducing risks of cross infections.

Children's health is protected as all staff have an up to date first aid certificate. This ensures an immediate response, should a child require first aid treatment. Excellent systems are in place for the recording of accidents and medication.

Interesting topic work allows children to taste a variety of different foods and enables them to develop knowledge of healthy options. A wide variety of nutritious meals are freshly cooked each day for the children, including a good range of vegetarian options. Excellent systems are in place to ensure children's dietary needs are consistently met. Regular and efficient checks take place to ensure that children are offered correct foods according to their needs.

Children thrive as they enjoy extensive opportunities for fresh air and exercise, contributing to their overall health and well being. The outdoor space is available to the children at all times, regardless of the weather and most choose to play in this area for a large proportion of the day. An excellent range of resources and enthusiastic staff enable children to gain maximum benefit from the outdoors. Children gain good physical skills and move confidently. They work together to ride the tandem push-along, ensuring their feet work at the same pace to move the vehicle steadily. They skilfully construct ramps using planks and crates, which in turn enable them to practise their balancing skills, as they confidently walk across their constructions.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children benefit from play in an extremely well organised environment, where they can move around freely and independently choose their preferred resources and areas for play. All children have easy and safe access to a superb range of good quality, well maintained toys and equipment, which have been carefully selected to ensure their suitability.

Excellent security systems and effective use of comprehensive risk assessments enable children to play safely. The entrance is protected by a security camera so that staff can see who is arriving before they open the door. A visual panel allows staff to further check before allowing

visitors entry to the setting. Children display good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. They hold on carefully to the low level rails when using the steps to the outdoor area and comment that water spills need to be mopped up at the water tray, 'or someone might slip'.

Staff demonstrate a pro-active approach when concerns have been raised by parents about the speed of traffic close to the nursery setting and have put steps in place to apply for funding for improvements to road safety.

Up to date policies and procedures and clear staff understanding ensure that children are well protected. Staff show a committed approach to child protection and their responsibilities in promoting children's welfare. Positive steps are taken to increase children's awareness of their own safety, for example by labelling body parts, talking about strangers, telling an adult and expressing feelings.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

All children have extremely good opportunities to self select resources and make choices in their play because staff organise and plan the environment to an exceptionally high standard. This promotes children's sense of belonging and encourages their independence. Children make excellent progress in all aspects of their development as they can explore, investigate and practise skills at their own pace. Most activities are child led and initiated, well supported by enthusiastic staff to extend learning.

Children flourish within the setting. They benefit from close bonds with consistent members of staff who are extremely committed to their job. They show high levels of confidence as they learn to interact positively with their friends and develop their communication skills, both verbally and through gestures. A superb range of natural resources allow children to explore using all their senses and play imaginatively alongside their peers.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff make good quality, spontaneous observations of children during play and use these to plan for children's individual learning needs. They meet regularly to discuss children's progress and note any particular areas of children's interest to focus their learning. Children's records move with them as they progress through the setting to ensure that staff are aware of each child's individual needs. Staff create a stimulating environment for the children by making sure that all the areas are well resourced with interesting and challenging materials

Children are happy and relaxed within the setting. They readily approach staff for support and engage in interesting and detailed conversations. They can recall and relate their learning during conversation. For example, one child explains that it is the cement that makes the bricks strong in the wall, showing understanding of the recent topic on buildings.

Children are eager to learn and move freely from one activity to another. They particularly enjoy the outdoor area, which provides activities in all areas of learning. Children understand

the need to take turns when playing together and wait for the egg timer to finish before taking a turn at the computer. There are regular opportunities for them to practise self help skills, although their independence is not fully encouraged during the lunch period.

Children enjoy books and use them well. They know how to turn the pages and that the print carries meaning. Children learn to recognise their names as they self register at the display board when they enter the nursery. Consistent use of labelling encourages children to make connections between real objects and the written word.

A varied range of activities encourage children's creativity. There are regular opportunities for dance, music and movement activities. They independently access resources which allow them to extend their play, for example, children choose to use small world figures in the sand activity to create a treasure island.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

All children have consistent access to a wide range of toys and resources that positively reflect diversity. The setting actively promotes equality throughout the setting, ensuring that children are able to access all activities. Staff highly value and respect children's individuality. Children celebrate a range of festivals, such as the Notting Hill Carnival, which introduces them to different cultures and encourages their respect for others. The provision fosters children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Effective systems support children with communication difficulties. Staff use sign language to enable children's communication and benefit all the children.

Children behave extremely well because staff effectively implement the comprehensive behaviour management policy. Children are fully engaged in their play and respond well to realistic requests made by staff. Staff work exceptionally well together and provide excellent role models for the children.

Partnership with parents is outstanding. Staff are pro-active in involving parents in the setting. Parents receive detailed information about the Foundation Stage and contribute to initial starting points and regular reviews of children's progress. Parents also contribute to the setting's newsletter, by offering information about recently visited, child friendly venues. They comment that they appreciate the setting's child centred and individualised approach.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

Children's care is significantly enhanced by exceptional organisation. All policies and procedures are informative, comprehensive and relevant to the setting. Consistently high staffing ratios ensure children are very well supported and receive consistent care. A well qualified and highly motivated staff team provide a creative and stimulating environment, in which children can comfortably progress to their full potential.

The leadership and management of the setting are good. The manager is fully committed to ensuring children receive high quality care and education. She actively promotes review of practice through regular meetings and by inviting feedback from parents. Good systems of support for staff enable them to keep up to date with record keeping and planning, allowing them to focus on children's individual learning needs.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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.

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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

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):

- further develop the lunch time period to encourage children's independence

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk