



Jack in the Box Day Care

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY270579
Inspection date	22 August 2006
Inspector	Jean Wilson
Setting Address	Tudhoe Moor Nursery School, Tudhoe Moor, Spennymoor, County Durham, DL16 6EX
Telephone number	01388 816112
E-mail	tudhoemoor.nursery@durhamlea.org.uk
Registered person	T.M. Nursery Enterprises Ltd
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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Jack in the Box Day Care have been registered since January 2004. It is run by T.M. Nursery Enterprises Ltd and operates from purpose built facilities in Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre, which is situated in Spennymoor. A maximum of 36 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.00 to 18.00 for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently eight children aged from six months to under five years on roll. The nursery has procedures in place to support children with learning difficulties

and/or disabilities. It serves children from the local and surrounding areas and children can attend varied days and hours of the week.

The nursery employs five members of staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in very clean and welcoming surroundings. They are well protected from the risk of infection because staff have clear written health procedures in place. These are effectively put into practice in all areas which includes nappy changing, food preparation, feeding and general cleaning. Older children are actively encouraged to develop good hygiene practice in all aspects of self-care. Children benefit from the clear sickness policy of the nursery. This is effectively shared with parents. Two staff hold valid first aid certificates, which means they are well prepared in the event of an accident. However, permission to seek emergency treatment is not obtained from parents to enable staff to act in the child's best interest if children became unwell.

Children enjoy nutritious meals and snacks because staff positively promote healthy eating. Meals are freshly prepared on the premises with mostly fresh ingredients and healthy drinks are provided throughout the day. Children follow their home routines and feeding and mealtimes are relaxed and sociable occasions for staff and children alike.

During outdoor play in the secure grassed area, children enjoy the fresh air and the opportunity to develop their coordination and balancing skills by using wheeled toys. For more challenging exercise children use the facilities of the nursery school which has climbing equipment.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are looked after in a safe environment and enjoy the security of being cared for by a staff team who have keen safety awareness. Arrangements for the arrival and collection of children are well managed and safety procedures include having clear written agreements about who can collect children. They are supervised vigilantly because staff are well deployed. However, routine safety procedures, such as regular fire drills and daily recorded checks are not yet in place to protect children and minimise risks.

Well organised space ensures that children of all ages are able to freely choose resources from mobile work trays and low level units. Children enjoy playing with a very good range of safe, clean and well maintained toys and equipment suitable for their ages and stages of development.

Children are further protected because staff are well informed about their role and responsibility in safeguarding their welfare. They are familiar with the process of monitoring, recording and reporting child protection concerns and are guided by up to date written procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

All age groups of children are happy and content because they benefit from being cared for by staff who are warm and attentive. Children look forward to coming to the nursery because they are enthusiastically greeted by staff who make them feel very welcome. They separate well from parents and carers and quickly settle into activities and daily routines. Babies who are new to the nursery are also settling in well because staff have formed close bonds and are familiar with their individual needs.

Staff have a good awareness of the 'Birth to three matters' framework and this is reflected in the actual care of the children. Children build very positive relationships with staff who respond well to the children's differing needs. Babies and toddlers are nurtured well. They have a wealth of experiences to stimulate their awareness of self and promote their learning and knowledge. They listen to a wide range of relaxing or lively music; shake, rattle and bang shakers to make their own sounds; or be part of group or individual activities to explore colour, shape, texture. They are also able to benefit from many early learning opportunities as they grow and develop. There is easy access to age appropriate books, construction and activity toys so that they can investigate and develop their natural curiosity. Children happily play with craft materials and in the sand and water areas, extremely well supported by the staff.

Systems are in place to monitor and record children's progress. Observations are effectively used to plan for the next stage of their development. Staff have good awareness of children's interests and ensure activities are fun and interesting.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children behave well because staff promote positive behaviour in a way that is age appropriate and sensitive to the circumstances of each child. Children are actively encouraged to be gentle and kind towards each other and staff are good role models. They reinforce good behaviour by providing constructive praise and encouragement. As children mature they are encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour and to develop a sense of respect for the environment and resources. They have good opportunities to develop confidence, independence and self-esteem. At lunchtime they are actively encouraged to make choices and help themselves from attractively presented food. A good range of anti-discriminatory toys and books helps them learn about our diverse communities. Currently there are no children with special needs attending the setting. However, systems have been devised so that staff work with parents and other relevant parties, ensuring the welfare and development of any children with additional needs.

Families receive a very warm welcome from staff at the nursery. Effective partnership working and good communication with parents helps ensure children benefit from a shared approach to their care. Comprehensive information is gathered and recorded for each child and is sensitively shared with staff who are already familiar with children's routines. Children's progress is effectively monitored because each day a diary is completed for each child and shared with parents. Information includes details about what and how much babies and toddlers ate, when babies slept and which activities they enjoyed most. The information about the overall service provided to parents and carers is of good quality.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the combined skills and knowledge of the staff team who are motivated and enthused. They are knowledgeable about their roles and responsibilities and work cooperatively to ensure the nursery runs smoothly. Staff ratios are suitably maintained to ensure there is sufficient cover at the beginning and end of each day. This helps ensure children are well supervised at all times.

Space is well organised to give all age groups suitable and well resourced play spaces. Good quality wooden furnishings and natural fabrics are effectively used to make the environment welcoming and attractive. Young children's rest and sleep arrangements are very cosy with subdued lighting and comforting music.

The setting is in the early stages of development in caring for children under three. Most policies and procedures are in place and effectively implemented by staff. However, some documents require revision in order to reflect the changes in the premises and include the care of children under three years.

Overall, the setting meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

The previous care inspection raised recommendations with regard to documentation. In response to these recommendations the child protection policy has been up dated to include all necessary information for staff. Parents are provided with a written statement on the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint. The accident records and registration of children and staff attending are accurately maintained. As a result, children's care and welfare has improved.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection. 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

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):

- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment
- improve fire safety precautions by conducting an emergency evacuation and maintaining a record
- develop systems of risk assessment in order to identify and respond to hazards both indoors and out, including equipment, materials and procedures
- further revise documentation to reflect the recent changes to provision.

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