



Jubilee Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	507893
Inspection date	05 December 2006
Inspector	Lynne Elizabeth Lewington
Setting Address	Paddock View, Rectory Road, Padworth Common, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 4JD
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Registered person	Brian Jenkins
Type of inspection	Integrated
Type of care	Full day care, Out of School 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?

Jubilee Day Nursery opened in 1979 and is a privately owned Nursery. The Nursery operates from a large purpose built two storey building in the rural location of Padworth Common. It serves the local villages and nearby towns. They have eight separate childcare areas. The Nursery opens five days a week 51 weeks of the year. Full time and part time day care is offered. Sessions are from 07:30 until 18:00.

A maximum of 163 children under eight years, with no more than 45 under two year olds, may attend the setting at any one time. Care is offered to older children in the school holidays. There are currently 141 children on roll. This includes 36 education funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery supports children with special needs.

There are 31 staff (including the manager) working in the nursery; 26 staff hold relevant childcare qualifications, 15 staff hold qualifications equivalent to a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level three. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The provision encourage children's good health because the children learn good hygiene routines, eat healthy food and the environment is clean and well maintained. Staff effectively encourage children's awareness of good hygiene through hand washing routines and encouraging children to learn how to wipe and clean their noses and dispose of tissues appropriately. Children learn the importance of caring for their teeth as they use their own toothbrushes after meals.

Children benefit from a healthy and nutritious diet of fresh locally grown foods. The cook and her assistant prepare the meals each day ensuring suitable alternatives are available for those with special dietary requirements. Children develop an excellent awareness of how food grows through activities they have undertaken at the nursery. In the summer they grow carrots and tomatoes along with other fruits and vegetables. This enables them to taste items they grow and take items home. Effective evaluation of this activity has informed plans for next spring to increase the amounts the children grow.

Children enjoy a very good range of activities to develop their physical skills. The extensive outside play areas provide a variety of experiences where the children can safely develop their abilities to climb, run and balance. The baby rooms provide spacious clean and comfortable areas where the youngest children confidently develop their abilities to roll, crawl, stand and take their first steps. A wide variety of daily activities provides children with excellent opportunities to develop their finer movements.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

This well managed and risk assessed nursery promotes the children's safety and welfare very effectively. Children develop their awareness of how to keep themselves safe through positive interaction with staff and their peers. Children learn simple routines which enable the staff to manage safety. For example; the children know the routine to line up before they go out to play, enabling the staff to check all the children are present and dressed appropriately for the weather. Staff child ratios are maintained enabling the children to have sufficient carers to meet their needs throughout the day.

Staff have appropriate understanding of child protection issues to safeguard the children's welfare. The clear child protection policy informs staff and parents of the actions that will be taken if there are any concerns.

The children enjoy spacious accommodation in a rural setting, where they have access to play areas suitable to their age and stage of development. The children benefit from a sensory garden where they grow vegetables and scented herbs. They experience enjoyable walks in the local environment where they develop awareness of the natural world. The nursery is very well equipped and provides attractive well maintained resources for the children's benefit.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy and achieve in the environment because they are happy and relaxed and the staff are competent at meeting their needs and requirements. The children confidently arrive in the nursery and join in with activities with enthusiasm and interest. Staff successfully plan activities using 'Birth to three matters' framework and record observations to plan the next steps in the individual child's learning.

Small children enthusiastically join in with action songs with staff who participate with equal enthusiasm. This helps them to express themselves in front of others, and learn and remember poems and rhymes. Staff sit on the floor to play with the babies encouraging them to take their first steps and say their first words. Children's needs and welfare is promoted very well consequently they are confident and able to progress and learn.

NURSERY EDUCATION

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Planning indicates the children experience a wide variety of interesting experiences and opportunities which enable them to develop into confident, inquisitive children. The majority of children confidently undertake new activities, make suggestions and speak in a familiar group. For example; two children were asked to show their peers the model they had made. They confidently referred to their creation, pointing out the various features including a diving board and swimming pool. Children dress for outside play and enthusiastically help to tidy up with increasing independence. However they do not experience sufficient opportunities to promote their independence at meal and snack times.

Children enjoy stories as they sit with adults and in groups to listen to a story. They independently access books throughout the setting. However the books in the pre-school area do not invite the children to use them sufficiently. Staff do not use books to support the children's learning and children are not encouraged to care for them appropriately. Labels around the setting encourage recognition of words. Opportunities for children to develop early writing skills are clearly evident in displays around the nursery. Children use pencils and a notebook in the hospital corner to make notes however they cannot always easily access paper and writing implements independently in other areas.

Children enjoy very good opportunities to develop their physical abilities as they move around the activities provided. They use tools with increasing skill and outdoors develop their abilities to balance, run and climb. The children experience excellent opportunities to develop their senses due to the variety of activities they undertake in the outside environment. The development of the well planned sensory garden is an ongoing worthwhile project which

provides the children with a variety of sensory experiences. For example; the planting of fragrant herbs encourages the children's sense of smell.

Children develop their creative abilities very successfully through art activities such as painting and model making. Their work is attractively displayed throughout the setting. Children enjoy make believe play acting out their life experiences and ideas. For example; the doctor carries his case and wears his stethoscope with authority and asks his patient, "What's the matter with you?", showing concern and expression in his face and voice. A bandage is required and two children ensure the patient lies on the bed to have her arm bandaged. Plans indicate that children have regular opportunities to use simple musical instruments and listen to music. They learn songs and enthusiastically practise singing Christmas songs.

Children develop their knowledge and understanding of the world around them throughout the year through their experiences of the natural world. They become familiar with the seasons as they use the local woodland for walks, where they collect leaves, sticks and paddle in the stream. They learn about the care of living creatures as they participate in feeding the pony and chickens and growing vegetables to eat. Children throughout the nursery listen to music from around the world and learn French. This successfully increases children's awareness of the wider world. The extensive variety of opportunities offered to children includes opportunities to use computer technology.

The staff competently makes use of opportunities for children to develop their awareness of shape, pattern, size and quantity throughout the daily routine in addition to undertaking specific mathematical activities with them. A small group of children sit with a staff member and play simple games with small coloured figures. They sort, count and arrange them in patterns, showing good awareness of numbers, quantity and how to make a repeating pattern. Good use is made of everyday opportunities for children to count and children use their knowledge in their play. A child acknowledges there are too many people in the hospital, there should only be four he says and another child sorts through the duplo bricks discarding many as he says they are all too big to fit in the space.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered. Children benefit from a meaningful range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase their awareness of diversity. Children learn French and listen to music from around the world. They meet and learn about people that help the community through arranged visits. For example; the fire officers and fire engine visited the setting enabling the children to learn about the work of the fire service. The setting is part of the local rural community and actively encourages children's awareness of the rural environment. They learn to care for chickens and the pony and enjoy the experience of a farm visiting them with a variety of animals. Walks in the local woodland and paddling in the stream ensure the children develop their senses and appreciation for nature. They collect natural items on their expeditions which they look and talk about. Photo albums of the extensive activities undertaken provide excellent reminders for the children and help to inform parents of the activities children undertake.

Children's behaviour is good. Staff show respect, care and consideration for the children and their colleagues and consequently the children behave similarly. They are developing care and consideration for others as they learn to take turns and share in their play. The busy hum of activity, singing and laughter indicates a happy productive child centred environment.

Positive steps ensure children's needs are fully understood. Discussions with parents and other professionals inform the staff's knowledge of children's individual needs enabling them to adapt and meet them competently. The staff shows sensitivity and understanding in dealing with special needs enabling positive working relationships to develop.

Partnership with parents is good. Staff work in partnership with them to promote the children's care and welfare whilst at the setting. Newsletters and parents' evenings enable parents to learn what their children do at nursery and their progress. The pre-school notice board informs parents of the letters the children are learning in order that they can support the children's learning. However the activity plans are not displayed prominently to inform parents on a daily basis. The baby rooms and toddler rooms have informative systems in place to ensure parents know what their child has been doing and eaten. Parents speak very highly of the nursery; the staff are warm, welcoming, helpful and friendly. They praise the settling in routine and the quality of the care offered at all times, many particularly like the outdoor opportunities the setting offers.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The very good quality of organisation safeguards and promotes the children's welfare and care. The children benefit from the sound recruitment and vetting and induction procedures which help to ensure they are well protected and cared for by a highly skilled enthusiastic staff team. The majority of staff hold child care qualifications, first aid qualifications and demonstrate a good understanding of both 'Birth to three matters' and the Foundation stage. Clear comprehensive policies ensure parents and staff are fully informed regarding the setting. The dedicated staff team clearly enjoy the children's company and ensure children enjoy and benefit from their time in the nursery. The provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

The quality of leadership and management of the nursery education is good. Staff work closely and effectively as a team. They produce long and short term plans which cover all areas of the Foundation Stage and ensure children experience a wide and varied curriculum. Staff undertake training opportunities, and share their learning with their colleagues. Appraisals and supervision ensure ongoing personal development. Planned activities, spontaneous activities and play opportunities meet the individual children's developing learning needs well. Children benefit from the enthusiastic, knowledgeable manager and her staff team as they work effectively together to provide a warm nurturing learning environment, where all the children's needs are of paramount importance.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection a large number of recommendations were made relating to the training of staff, the organisation of the setting and its policies, behaviour management, the suitability of surfaces and the partnership with parents.

The current manager is suitably qualified and is keen to develop her knowledge and skills for the benefit of the children. The environment has been reorganised providing safer areas for the children's play. The driveway has been resurfaced to safeguard the children from the dust and the baby room floor is carpeted and has vinyl areas providing a safe and clean area for their play. Clear policies made available to all parents and staff are up to date. Parents receive monthly informative newsletters; have access to notice boards and invitations to parents' evenings to ensure they are kept well informed. Children experience a wide variety of resources and experiences which develop their awareness of other people and individual needs. Therefore the nursery has made very good progress since the last inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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

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

- improve opportunities for children to develop their independence skills at meal and snack times

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):

- provide more opportunities for children to use writing implements for a variety of tasks

- improve children's appreciation and interest in a variety of books which they can access and enjoy comfortably and independently
- improve parent's access to the weekly activity plans enabling them to be well informed of the children's activities and learning opportunities.

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