



Making Miracles

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY331068
Inspection date	24 October 2006
Inspector	Jacqueline Munden
Setting Address	25 Shaftesbury Avenue, Chandler's Ford, EASTLEIGH, Hampshire, SO53 3BR
Telephone number	02380 906340
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Registered person	Making Miracles Childcare 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?

Making Miracles is a privately owned day nursery which opened in 2006. It is situated in a residential area of Chandlers Ford. It operates from a newly refurbished premises with an enclosed area for outside play. A maximum of 20 children under eight years may attend the nursery at any one time. At present there are 12 children on roll. The nursery is in the process of registering to receive funding for Nursery Education. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.00 to 18.00 all year round.

The nursery employs five members of staff all of whom hold appropriate Early Years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own personal care and can independently access the toilet and washing facilities. There are effective hygiene procedures in place for nappy changing and the preparation of tables before eating. Children are protected from cross infection as they use individual flannels, towels and bedding. Staff and children remove outdoor footwear as they enter to ensure all areas are clean and hygienic for children and babies playing on the floor.

Staff maintain good records of accidents and any medication administered, and share these with parents and carers. They consult with parents about the children's health needs.

Children are provided with a nutritious range of snacks and meals. They enjoy healthy snacks such as breadsticks, and fruit vegetables at each session. Although water is not freely available children are regularly offered drinks. Registration forms completed for all children include information regarding any allergies and dietary needs they may have.

Children develop a good range of skills during their physical play. They benefit from the frequent opportunities to play in the garden and the wide range of resources provided in and outdoors. The equipment enables them to practice skills such as, climbing, peddling and bouncing. Indoors they crawl through the tunnel and take part in music and movement sessions. Younger children and those learning to walk are catered for equally well with push along toys and activity centres.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a relatively safe environment that is secure, warm and welcoming. Access to the nursery via the front door is well monitored and visitors sign in the visitors book. Babies are regularly checked as they sleep as well as a listening device being used. A daily checklist is used to monitor the safety of the setting. However, children's access to the office and the heaters is not restricted; they are therefore at risk. The emergency evacuation procedure has been practised and appropriately recorded since the nursery opened but this is not frequent enough or in accordance with the settings policy, to ensure all children and staff are aware of what to do in an emergency.

All areas of the nursery are well equipped with good quality toys and resources which are clean and in a good, safe condition. This range includes those made of natural materials, such as a wooden dolls house and shape sorters. Babies particularly enjoy exploring the treasure basket which has mix of natural and man-made objects. Equipment is stored in a variety of wooden and plastic containers and drawer systems that are at child height allowing them to make independent choices. There is lounge furniture creating a homely atmosphere with plenty of natural light and ventilation.

Children are well protected regarding child protection issues as staff are clear about their roles and the setting's procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very happy and settled in the nursery. Children are confident and demonstrate a sense of belonging as they arrive and exchange greetings with staff. They are interested and involved in their learning as they move between activities. Staff know the children well and provide suitable activities to challenge them in their learning. For example an able child is offered a more difficult selection of number puzzles. She sits, engrossed for a long period of time until it is completed. They relate well to adults and ask questions as they play. Staff respond with encouragement and praise which promotes children's confidence and self-esteem. Younger children benefit from the staff's sound knowledge of the Birth to Three Matters framework which is used in planning activities for them. However, they also greatly benefit from the skill of staff that adapt activities for the younger children to ensure they are fully involved in all activities in the setting. Children enjoy listening to stories and joining in songs and rhymes, babies "babble" and clap their hands. They all relish using the musical instruments and take turns in choosing song cards from a bag to play along to and sing. Children have free access to a range of imaginative play materials in the home corner where they take turns in being the doctor and patient. This helps them become skilful communicators.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children behave well, they enjoy playing together and they develop a sense of responsibility by helping to tidy away before snack times. They follow clear rules and routines, are polite and kind towards each other and adults. Good behaviour is promoted by staff who use praise and positive reinforcement. Children are praised by staff at every opportunity making children feel good about themselves.

Diversity is promoted throughout the setting. Children use a satisfactory range of play equipment and books that promote positive images of all people in society. They become involved in the community through visitors including the Police and by making visits to the library and the park.

Children are valued as individuals and their care routines are maintained well. They can eat when hungry and sleep when tired. Those with special needs and English as an additional language are welcomed and can be effectively supported as staff are qualified in this area.

The partnership with parents and carers is developing well. Parents are warmly welcomed into the setting to help children settle and share information about home routines, allergies and interests. This is used to help children develop confidence, feel at ease and develop a sense of belonging. Parents are given comprehensive information about how the setting runs, occasional newsletters, menus and information about activities is displayed.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. Most aspects of the setting are well organised. Children are well supported because staff spend much of their time working directly with them, know them well and are warmly responsive to their needs. Staff are well qualified and committed to updating their knowledge and understanding of childcare and education issues. However, the required number of staff trained in first aid is not always on site. Children benefit from the enthusiastic team of staff who work together very well; they have clear roles and responsibilities. Staff receive an induction to ensure children's safety and welfare, and ongoing appraisals to ensure their professional development.

Space and resources are organised well with different areas used for different activities, for example, messy play, role play, a comfortable quiet area and a computer.

The operational plan defines the vision of the setting. The policies and procedures are clearly set out, regularly reviewed, shared with all staff and made available to parents. The times of children's arrival and departure are being recorded by parents rather than by staff as required. The manager keeps up to date with current regulation. A robust vetting procedure is in place ensuring the suitability of staff.

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.

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):

- ensure children do not have access to the office and storage heaters, and practice the emergency evacuation procedure more frequently in accordance with the policy already in place
- ensure staff record the times of arrival and departure of children and meet the minimum requirement of staff trained in first aid.

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