



Kingfisher Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY285324
Inspection date	06 March 2007
Inspector	Justine Ellaway
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Registered person	Helen Ruth Burton
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?

Kingfisher Day Nursery was registered in 2004. It operates from four rooms in converted premises in Spondon, Derby. A maximum of 20 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07.30 to 18.00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 40 children aged from 3 months to under 8 years on roll. The setting currently supports children with learning difficulties.

The nursery employs 11 members of staff. All of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's good health is well promoted in the setting. It is a clean and tidy environment and staff members wipe down the tables before and after snack and after messy play. Children's clothes are suitably protected as they wear aprons when they are engaged in any messy activities. There is a clear sun protection policy which is shared with parents to promote children's good health when it is hot. Staff regularly wipe children's noses during the session. The cook and three other members of staff have a food hygiene certificate.

Children are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times and as a result develop an understanding of their own hygiene.

There are appropriate nappy changing procedures in place, as staff wear disposable gloves and aprons and wipe down the mat after each change with anti-bacterial spray. The toilets are clean and well maintained, with liquid soap and paper towels available for children. The toys in the baby room are cleaned daily. A suitable sick child policy is in place to protect children from the risk of spread of infection, shared with parents at the time of placement. As a result the risk of cross-infection is minimised and the good health of children maintained.

Appropriate procedures are in place to maintain children's good health when they are ill or have an accident. There is a clear written procedure to follow if a child becomes ill whilst at the nursery and in the event of an accident or incident. Accident and medication records contain appropriate information and are signed by parents. A high number of staff have a first aid certificate.

Children enjoy regular opportunities to be active and have physical exercise, which effectively promotes development of their physical skills. Children play outside on a daily basis and there is sufficient challenge both with the equipment including sit and ride toys and small equipment such as hoops and through staff interaction. Babies and young children are encouraged to develop through stretching, crawling and standing. Toys are placed around them so they develop their muscles as they reach and stretch. Their routines are obtained from parents at the time of placement and followed consistently by staff. Any changes are discussed with parents to promote consistency of care.

Children enjoy a healthy range of meals and snacks. There is a system in place to check that the weekly menu contains a balance of the different food groups. Most meals are made from scratch and include very few processed foods. Alternatives are provided for children with allergies or preferences, which are similar to the meal offered so that children do not feel excluded. Children's independence and social skills is promoted at meal times. Children help to serve the meals and staff engage them in conversation.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The nursery is a bright and cheerful environment. Children and parents are greeted warmly by staff as they arrive. As a result children feel secure and comfortable whilst at the nursery. There are displays of children's work and an attractive display of photographs of the children. This effectively promotes a sense of belonging.

Children can move between the main two rooms independently and can play quietly in one room or move freely onto a structured activity. There are a good range of toys and resources available for children to play with. They are well displayed around the perimeter of the room so that children can move them into the centre to play on the floor and can play uninterrupted. As a result children engage in play for long periods of time.

Children's safety is well promoted within the nursery. There is a clear and detailed risk assessment in place which is reviewed regularly and clearly details any action taken to minimise potential hazards. There are stair gates in place to restrict access to areas such as the kitchen. A clear written child collection policy reminds staff of the procedure they must follow when children are collected by someone other than their usual carer.

Children's safety is effectively promoted when they are outside. A clear written procedure for outdoor play lists the checks to be undertaken before children go outside. Staff vigilantly follow this and a staff member checks the outside area and sweeps away any puddles. A clear written policy is in place for outings.

Children are developing an understanding of keeping themselves safe. They engage in topics on stranger danger. They are given a clear explanation of why something is unsafe and what the implications might be. Children listen carefully to staff and follow instructions, for example, waiting by the door until a staff member says it is alright to go outside.

Children's welfare is well promoted in relation to child protection issues. Staff are clear on the reporting procedures and possible signs and symptoms.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's self-esteem is well promoted. Staff are very friendly and positive with the children, give them lots of praise and encouragement when they are playing. Children celebrate their own achievements, they clap at the end of a song when a staff member says 'well done'.

Children are involved in a broad range of planned activities which support their development and learning. The 'Birth to three matters' framework is used well to plan a range of activities. The planning clearly identifies which aspects are being covered and there is equal coverage of the aspects within the framework over the week. Children enjoy activities such as free play, singing, outdoor play, art and craft and story time during the day. Staff successfully provide activities that build on children's interests, for example, they notice that a child likes playing with shoes and they make the role play area into a shoe shop. However, some of the art and

craft activities are a little prescriptive and involve children decorating pre-cut shapes with pre-determined materials. As a result children's creativity and imagination is not fully stimulated during art and craft.

There is good staff interaction during play and as a result children are interested and engaged in purposeful play. Staff talk to children about what they are doing and ask relevant questions which promotes their thinking and learning. Staff are effective at engaging children. A child becomes distracted during singing, a staff member notices and asks him if he can remember how many currant buns there are, he quickly re-joins the activity. Children make relevant comments such as 'I need a bigger one' when playing with certain toys. Older children use lots of conversation whilst they are playing, and will often describe what they are doing or what they are playing with.

Staff make effective use of observation and assessment to plan for children's next steps. Regular observations and entries into children's progress records provide an accurate picture of where children are at in terms of their development. These are then used to plan for children's next steps as staff ask for certain activities to be provided so that their key children can develop different skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The nursery gathers information on children's individual needs to ensure they are fully included in the routines of the setting. A record of babies routines is obtained at the time of placement and kept within the room for reference by staff. Staff know the children very well and what their particular triggers are, for example, when they are tired. Staff are patient with children and allow them to choose things that make them comfortable. For example, a child asks for a particular bowl for his lunch and the staff member gets this for him.

Children separate well from their carers and settle in the nursery. Good support is given to children to settle. Staff greet them when they arrive and pick them up and hold them whilst talking to the parent. A staff member comforts a child who is still settling in and likes to have a particular toy with him and she comments on the toy.

Children behave well whilst at the nursery. Staff are effective role models who are calm and friendly and very positive in their interaction with the children. As a result children play well with others. Staff allow children to try new skills in a comfortable environment. A child spills his drink as he is just getting used to a cup rather than beaker, and a staff member comforts him as she says 'it doesn't matter you are just learning'. Staff employ suitable methods to manage inappropriate behaviour and children are given clear reminders of why they should not behave in a particular way.

Children receive consistent and appropriate care. There is a clear and useful display of information on a well laid out notice board in the reception area. This includes relevant policies and procedures and the weekly planning. A parental involvement policy acknowledges the importance of parents as children's main educators and encourages them to share their views. Parents receive regular feedback from staff when they collect their child.

Children with special needs receive a good level of support as staff are fully briefed on what support is required and how they will provide this. Children become aware of wider society through an appropriate range of and the celebration of different festivals.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for by a friendly and positive staff team. The setting demonstrates a commitment to improve to positively benefit the children who attend. All of the staff hold an appropriate Early Years qualification and undertake training. The nursery is currently completing the 'Steps to Quality' quality assurance scheme. This positively impacts on the care provided for children.

Recruitment and induction procedures ensure staff are clear on their role and responsibilities. All adults have undergone appropriate checks to ensure they are safe to work with children.

There is good deployment of staff throughout the day. They are always working with the children and engaging them in play.

Policies and procedures work in practice to promote children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. There is a clear and detailed operation plan and folder of policies and procedures. Staff demonstrate a sound understanding of them. Additional permissions are obtained for photographs and non-standard first aid items to promote consistency of care. Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was asked to ensure that there is a policy regarding the administration of medication; to ensure that the child protection procedure for the nursery includes procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer; and to ensure that parents sign to acknowledge medicines given to children.

A clear policy is in place for the administering of medicines. Parents consistently sign the medication records to acknowledge medicines given to their child. As a result children's good health is promoted when they are ill. The child protection policy includes a clear statement about the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation against a member of staff or volunteer. As result children's welfare is effectively promoted.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection Ofsted has received one complaint relating to Standard 11: Behaviour management. The complaint related to the handling of an incident. We visited the provider to investigate the concerns raised in September 2006. The provider reviewed procedures for logging and reporting incidents and recording complaints to ensure that all complaints whether verbal or written are recorded. The provider reviewed the procedure for allegations against a member of staff in relation to child protection to ensure that the procedure is followed and

reflects practice. She reviewed her procedure for notifying the regulator about significant events. The provider remains qualified for registration.

The provider has made a record of the complaint in their complaint record. 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):

- develop children's choice during art and craft activities to fully promote their learning and development

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