



## **BSS Seminary**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY254207
<b>Inspection date</b>	05 February 2007
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<b>Registered person</b>	BSS Seminary
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Crèche

## 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](http://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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Beis Soroh Scheneirer Seminary Crèche opened in 1996 and operates in one large room on the ground floor of the seminary. Children also have access to outdoor play. A maximum of 10 children may attend. There are currently 16 children on roll, many of whom attend on a sessional basis. The crèche offers two separate sessions, morning and afternoon. The crèche operates from 09.00 to 13.00 and 13.30 to 17.00 Monday to Thursday, term time only.

The crèche is available to children of staff members working at the seminary and the wider community. The seminary is a training establishment for girls from the Orthodox Jewish Community, it is located in Broughton, a suburb of Salford.

There are two separate staff groups, one for the morning session and another group for the afternoon session. There are four staff; the two leaders are qualified to Level 3 in childcare. Currently, two staff are working towards an appropriate qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are kept healthy because staff collect secure information about children's health and dietary requirements and agree with parents what procedures to follow in the case of an emergency. Children learn to take appropriate responsibility for their own health by following hygiene routines and through planned activities, such as songs about hand washing. Children, however, do not wash their hands at snack time nor do they have access to soap at the sink, which makes the hygiene routines less effective.

Children's emotional and physical needs are very well met as staff give good one-to-one attention to children. For example, they acknowledge children's emotions by saying, 'you are sad today but soon you will be happy', they adjust hair bobbles that are annoying their owner, immediately respond to babies crying, wipe noses and give lots of cuddles. Very young children significantly benefit from being allowed to follow their own sleeping and eating patterns.

Parents provide all food and drink for the children, which the facility ensures is suitably stored, for example, by placing yoghurts in a fridge. The group also provides facilities for nursing mothers.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play and learn in a bright, warm, safe environment. Toys and equipment are of a good quality and are well maintained. Staff are aware of safety issues and take precautions to ensure children's safety, for example, all highchairs are equipped with safety harnesses and electrical sockets are covered. Staff check the facility twice each day and record and rectify any discrepancies. This check list does not include the outside area, which is currently unsafe due to fallen branches and slippery surfaces.

The room is well proportioned and allows for children to move freely. Some toys are stored in themed boxes, or on the cupboard surfaces. Older children are encouraged to access these independently, however, younger children are not able to independently access resources as little is stored at floor level and there is minimal continuous provision.

Children are protected from harm as the manager and staff have a secure understanding of child protection issues and their written child protection procedures are clear.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are lively, active, helpful and most are interested in the activities offered. Children display very good social and organisational skills, for example, whilst singing 'Nellie the Elephant' they quickly and efficiently organise themselves into a line and are effective in working cooperatively to tidy up.

Staff are skilled at including children in activities by asking them to contribute their experiences to discussions and stories. As a consequence, children are confident to do so, secure that their contributions are valued. The children are keen to discuss the Torah and the festival they celebrated at the weekend.

Staff plan activities and re-visit themes to allow children to consolidate their understanding, for example, following the discussion about fruit, they play a game called fruit sundae in which they learn about colour and size and discuss favourite fruits and tastes. Toddlers and older children learn about the world about them, their culture and religion through appropriate planned activity. Planning for babies is occasionally not adequate and they are not fully able to participate in the planned activities, for example, they sit on staff's knees to watch the board game but take little part.

Children do not practise gross motor skills, such as running, jumping and climbing, on a daily basis throughout the year, which limits their learning opportunities.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children behave very well, they know what is expected of them and are secure in the environment. Staff provide good role models for children, are calm, quietly spoken and provide consistent boundaries. Children are skilfully diverted from unwanted activity and provided with positive, more interesting alternatives. Children learn right from wrong discussing with staff how they should treat their parents. For example, if their mammy asks them to go to bed should they say, 'Yes mammy' or should they say, 'I'm not tired, I do not want to.' Children are clear they should say the former because it is what their scripture requires.

Children learn about the wider environment at circle time and by using resources, such as ethnic dolls and reading books depicting other cultures also disabilities. The staff do not frequently plan focus activities specifically to widen children's appreciation of other cultures and religions.

There is a good written policy to enable staff to meet the needs of children with disabilities or learning difficulties, and staff understand clearly the importance of early intervention and integration.

Parents are made very welcome in the setting and visit frequently throughout the day. Daily discussion between parents and staff ensures children's needs and parents' wishes are met. Parents also receive individual brochures, which are well produced and easily understood, on each of the main policies and procedures. Communication between the staff and parents is good, which promotes a harmonious and secure environment for children.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The manager and staff work well as a team to promote children's learning and care. Management have ensured that staff are suitable to work with children and have provided a plan to ensure staff become suitably qualified.

All required documents, policies and procedures that contribute to children's health, wellbeing and safety are in place and available for inspection. Documentation observed is current and is confidentially kept, ensuring appropriate care is given to children in accordance with parental wishes. The crèche has not ensured the visitor book is completed on all occasions.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the provider agreed to action recommendations to improve the quality of service to the children and parents. Staff and parents now have access to comfortable seating whilst feeding babies, which improves the adults' and children's wellbeing. Children's safety has been improved by adherence to staffing ratios and the removal of foam mattresses. Staff consistently follow sound hygiene practice in relation to mealtimes and nappy changing, thus significantly reducing the risk of infection for children. Children have some opportunities to learn about the diverse society in which they live, through books and dolls which the facility provides. The group, however, does not positively promote children's understanding of culture and religion through more interactive resources, such as kitchen equipment, dressing up clothes and posters.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Ofsted received concerns relating to National Standard 6: Safety. A childcare inspector visited the provision on 20 November 2006. Actions were raised and were satisfactorily met by the registered provider. The provider remains qualified for registration.

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 satisfactory. 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):

- improve hygiene practice by ensuring children wash their hands prior to eating snack and by providing soap at the sink
- ensure the outside area is maintained in a safe condition for children to access throughout the year

- plan to provide daily opportunities throughout the year for children to practise running, climbing and jumping.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)