

Hungry Caterpillar Kidz Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY306556
Inspection date	05 April 2007
Inspector	Helen Ann Woods
Setting Address	Tilehouse School, Nightingale Way, Denham, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB9 5JL
Telephone number	01895 833369
E-mail	
Registered person	Hungry Caterpillar Day Nurseries Ltd
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of 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

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?

The Hungry Caterpillar Kidz Club is run by the Hungry Caterpillar Day Nurseries Ltd and operates from Tilehouse Combined School in Denham, Buckinghamshire during the school holidays. The school is situated close to main rail and road links into London and serves a large geographic area around Bucks and Hillingdon. The club is registered to take up to 120 children aged between three and eight years and of these no more than 16 may be aged under five years at any one time. Currently there are 50 children on roll attending a variety of different sessions between 09:00 - 17:00. A breakfast club operates from 08:00 - 09:00 and a tea time club between 17:00 - 18:00 every day. The club supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also children who have English as an additional language.

The club has the use of two sports halls, one kitchen, up to four classrooms, ground floor and first floor toilets, staff toilets and staff room, two playgrounds with netball courts and a field with football pitch.

Over half of the staff team hold relevant childcare qualifications equivalent to NVQ level three and there is always at least two staff present at each session who hold current first aid qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are independent and have a good understanding about maintaining their own health. They recognise the need to follow good personal hygiene routines, for example they take themselves to the cloakroom, wash and dry their hands before and after meal times and after using the toilet.

Children thrive because staff follow effective procedures and practices which meet the children's physical, nutritional and health needs.

Children's good health is promoted as practitioners implement effective hygiene procedures to minimise risk of infection across the provision. Areas where the children eat are kept clean and tables regularly wiped down after activities and before meals are taken. Children bring a packed lunch which is stored in the kitchen area of the hall. During the summer months children bring ice packs in their lunch bags and these are stored in a cool place at the side of the school hall. Simple meals such as cereals, toast and fruit are provided for children attending breakfast and tea time clubs. Key members of staff have current first aid training and implement procedures such as the recording of accidents and administration of medication.

Children get plenty of robust physical exercise using all the facilities such as playing football games, trampoline and on the adventure climbing equipment. Children help themselves to easily accessible drinking water throughout the day as well as bringing their own drinks.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children develop a very good understanding of how to keep themselves safe and recognise dangers. They move freely around the welcoming environment and use suitable and safe equipment when making their own choices from a varied selection of activities.

Very good supervision and safety nets on equipment such as the large trampoline minimise the risk of accidents for the children. Children talk confidently about procedures to follow if there was a fire and learn to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe such as not running in confined areas and listening to instructions carefully.

Children are well protected because practitioners have a clear understanding of their role with regard to child protection issues and are familiar with local guidelines and procedures to be followed. Implementation of effective systems such as the collection of children, formal and informal risk assessments, contribute to ensuring children's safety.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have great fun, are confident and secure with the staff and in the surroundings. Staff acknowledge feedback from parents and children to plan ahead in order to provide an exciting range of activities. For example, horse riding, archery with a specialist instructor and outings to a 'soft play' centre.

Children benefit from the routine, allowing them to initiate their own ideas, and make their own choices about their play. They enjoy making their own Easter Cards from a selection of good quality materials and equipment which is set out for them to self select.

Children play well independently and with their peers, as well as enjoying opportunities to work more directly with practitioners through organised activities such as team games. Children have great fun creating their own drama activities that they organise together. They negotiate well with one another and with the staff who are skilled in talking to the children and listening to their ideas.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's are well behaved and fully occupied. Simple boundaries are set based around safety and respect for property and people, which enable children to develop self-discipline. Children are regularly praised for their achievements especially when helping less able children.

Parents receive information, copies of all policies and procedures and all relevant recordings concerning their child. The play scheme maintains confidentiality at all times.

Children's self-esteem is fostered through positive interaction with the staff. They receive lots of praise and encouragement so they feel valued and confident to try new experiences. All the children are included in activities such as helping themselves to art and craft materials to make Easter Cards and jumping on the trampoline enabling children to mix socially and learn respect for differing cultures and abilities.

The staff have a good understanding and experience of providing for all children's learning and developmental needs. Children mix socially with others, encouraging them to learn respect for differing cultures and abilities. The staff have a good understanding of children's learning and developmental needs, ensuring they meet all children's needs.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities within the scheme. They ensure all children are secure and happily engaged in the activities. Children develop a secure sense of belonging because the scheme is well organised and practitioners work with parents to ensure they have a good knowledge of children's individual needs. Activities are planned ahead by referring to the feedback form completed by children and parents from previous holidays.

The club has developed a range of effective procedures which enable staff and parents to know how the setting operates on a day to day basis, however the information for parents is not always accessible. Children's details are kept secure and policies and procedures are available for inspection. The club meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

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 information for parents is accessible throughout the duration of the scheme.

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