



Bournemouth Sure Start Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY274124
Inspection date	06 May 2005
Inspector	Christine Coram
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Registered person	Sure Start Bournemouth
Type of inspection	Integrated
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 AND NURSERY EDUCATION

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.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are satisfactory.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Bournemouth Sure Start Nursery is run by National Children's Home. It opened in 2004 and operates from a purpose built unit in the mainly residential area of West Howe, Bournemouth. A maximum of 34 children may attend at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.00 to 18.00 for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure, enclosed outside play area.

There are currently 46 children from birth to under five years on roll. Children mainly

come from the local community. The nursery currently supports children with special educational needs and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs eight staff. Seven of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. One staff member is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is very well supported through clear, and effective procedures for hygiene. These are rigorously followed by knowledgeable staff. They learn excellent hygiene habits from the well maintained routines such as washing hands before snacks and meals. Children are able to wash independently in the play rooms, as well as the toilet area, in child-height sinks which supports this learning process.

Children thrive and benefit from healthy eating which is a high priority for the setting. They have inviting and nutritious snacks and breakfast. There is the option of a hot lunch. Healthy eating is also promoted through the display of packed lunch ideas. Children with allergies and dietary needs are very well provided for.

Children benefit from many opportunities for energetic, physical and outdoor play. Children under three years enjoy the physical play equipment in their rooms as well as in the outside area. This gives opportunities for developing their skills. Their health is further promoted through rest and sleep in appropriate facilities. Children over three years have daily outside play in all weather. They move confidently, with great pleasure and increasing skill.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are welcomed into a child-orientated and safe environment. Bright, stimulating rooms are arranged to make activities and facilities easily accessible. Children benefit from a good range of high quality, well maintained resources and equipment. These clearly support the needs of each group of children and are appropriate to their stage of development.

Children are protected through thorough and well thought-out procedures. Staff follow these vigilantly, for example, signing-in and out routines and fire procedures. Excellent safety equipment is in place including an internal door lock system, and the outside gate which has a magnetic lock linked to the fire alarm system in case of fire. Staff are extremely vigilant and act quickly to ensure children's safety during play. Children are also protected through detailed child protection procedures and information and staff's awareness of them.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a suitable range of play opportunities which meets their developmental needs and promotes development in all areas. However, planning and preparation is not consistent across the setting and the two year old children sometimes have to wait too long for activities to be set up.

All children experience a variety of different activities including stories, suitable toys and messy play. However, sensory and messy play is not always available for children under three years to choose freely. Children's individual routines are followed and staff are aware of individual needs, stages of development, preferences and abilities.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is satisfactory. Overall, children are making suitable progress in their learning. They are independent and very confident in carrying out activities. They are proud of their achievements. They are often willing to take turns, with support, and clearly understand the concept. Children have many opportunities to learn about varied cultures and religious festivals. They are confident speakers. They spontaneously choose books and 'read' to themselves, pointing at the pictures and words and constructing a story based on the images. Activities such as number games are not always appropriate or engaging. Children show great interest in technology, benefiting from having the computer freely available at all free play sessions. They enjoy painting and a good range of messy and creative play. They engage in very expressive imitative play in well resourced role play area.

Staff have a sound knowledge of the Early Learning Goals and are clear about the aims of all activities. Planning is detailed and contains clear aims. A broad range of topics and activities is provided. The challenges set for the children are not always appropriate or adapted to the needs of the children present and staff do not always maximize opportunities to extend the children's learning. For example, in the outside area, safety issues are addressed but children are not involved in discussions or problem solving about keeping themselves safe. Varied teaching methods are used and there is a good balance between free and adult directed activities. Staff use time effectively, ensuring that activities are prepared in advance so that time is not wasted. Resources are of extremely high quality and organised very effectively to give both staff and children easy access. A system for assessment is in place including detailed and dated observations so that progress is clear.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an inclusive atmosphere where activities and topics include a good range of cultural and religious festivals. The needs of children with special needs are met well. The SENCO is very confident, knowledgeable and experienced. There are excellent links with other professionals through the adjoining Sure Start

centre where a speech therapist and health visitor are based.

Children's behaviour is managed adequately with suitable strategies such as distraction and explanation used effectively. However, some children become boisterous and argumentative when waiting for activities to be prepared. They are beginning to accept the feelings of others and share and take turns but need support from staff in this. They are encouraged and praised frequently.

Children are cared for with consistency through effective partnership with parents and carers. Staff are aware of the needs of the community and work with parents well. There is good communication between them.

Partnership with parents and carers is good. Excellent work has been done to engage and work with parents. A good range of helpful information is given to them about the educational programme including a weekly experiences sheet, a board with "What has your child achieved at nursery today" and daily discussions. Parents are enthusiastic and extremely positive about the level of communication and information given. Children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The required staff ratios are maintained and staff are well qualified. Systems are being refined to make the best use of staff but these are not always effective. Space and resources are well organised and the required documentation is organised and up to date. Suitable policies are in place and procedures are followed efficiently by all staff. Children's needs are met.

Leadership and management of the setting is satisfactory. There is sound leadership of the setting and a clear management structure. The manager has set up systems, procedures and planning during this first year but limited evaluation has taken place. The manager has a realistic view of the quality of care and education. She has clear aims to improve both, now that the nursery is established. Staff meetings are held on a regular basis and staff contribute to the business plan, planning of activities and future plans for the setting.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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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 the accessibility of sensory and messy play with particular reference to under 3s
- improve the planning and preparation of activities for 2 to under 3 year olds

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):

- extend the challenges offered to 3 and 4 years to increase their opportunities for problem solving and encourage them to think for themselves

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