

Pinocchio Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspector Daphne Prescott

Setting Address St. Cuthberts Parish Church, Fordwych Road, London, NW2 3TN

Telephone number 07957 966139
E-mail katiekasia@hotmail.com
Registered person Katarzyna Monika Idasiak
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Pinocchio Nursery is privately owned. It opened 2006 and operates from two play rooms in a St Cuthbert's Parish Church in West Hampstead in the London borough of Camden.

A maximum of 26 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 to 18:00 for 49 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently five children aged from two years to under five years on roll. Children come from the local and wider community. The nursery currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs four staff, of these two staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm clean nursery. There are appropriate hygiene procedures in place which help minimise the risk of infection. For example, children are learning about good self-care skills, as they are encouraged to wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet. Staff follow appropriate procedures to prevent the spread of infection to protect children. For example, staff wear disposable gloves and aprons when changing nappies, and anti-bacterial spray is used to wipe the changing mat after each use. There are appropriate procedures for administering and recording medication and recording accidents which further ensures children's health and wellbeing.

A cook, on the premises, prepares fresh food for the children. Children benefit from nutritious and healthy meals. For example, at lunch time children enjoy chicken, potatoes and fresh broccoli. Children and staff sit together for meal times, creating a relaxed and social atmosphere in which social skills and good manners are promoted. Children are able to drink whenever they are thirsty as drinking water is also set out for children to help themselves to throughout the day.

Children have plenty of opportunities for physical play enabling children to practise their increasing mobility skills. For example, they are becoming proficient at riding their bikes, steering between different obstacles with a great sense of achievement when they do this well. They are beginning to develop good coordination as they play with bats and balls also throwing and catching balls with the staff. Children also have opportunities to enjoy fresh air and exercise, as they have access to the outside play area.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the welcoming surroundings as staff greet them and their parents warmly, which helps to ensure children feel secure. They are cared for in a suitably organised environment, as the arrangement of the resources and equipment means that children can move around safely and freely. Children have access to a satisfactory range of toys and resources that help to meet the learning and developmental needs. They are able to make choices as play equipment and resources are stored at low-level to encourage their independence.

The staff help keep the children in the nursery safe, because they are vigilant in closely supervising the children and their activities. Staff ensure that the nursery is well secured and that anyone wishing to gain entry is suitably identified before gaining access. All visitors must sign the visitors log book. Children are also kept safe as systems for addressing safety issues are in place. For example, daily safety checks are completed to ensure that children can enjoy an environment that is safe. However, written risk assessments have not been completed for an assessment of the premises, which would further promote children's safety.

Children's welfare is safeguarded through the staff's sound understanding and knowledge of child protection matters; they have procedures to follow should they have concerns about the wellbeing of a child. The provider is aware of the procedures to follow if she has concerns regarding a member of staff. However, there are no written procedures to be followed in the

event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer, which would help towards safeguard children further.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy their time at the nursery and show that they are comfortable as they are happy when they arrive and quickly settle into the routine as they make their own choices about their play. They receive lots of attention from the staff, which increases their sense of wellbeing. Staff are beginning to plan a varied range of activities and experiences for children. They have also started to complete observations on the children and keep records about the development of each child and use this to discuss children's development and learning with parents.

Children have fun, as they play enthusiastically with a satisfactory range of good quality toys and resources that offer challenge. They are confident, enthusiastic and persist at activities for extended periods of time. For example, they spend time completing puzzles and relish the attention from staff when they are praised for their efforts. Children are developing their communication skills as they start to contribute to group discussions and become competent learners. They are developing their vocabulary as staff constantly chat and encourage them to respond.

They enjoy opportunities to express imagination through role-play as they pretend to feed their babies, change their nappies and take them for a walk in their buggies around the play room. Children show confidence and increasing control as they are beginning to manipulate a range of small tools and equipment successfully. For example, children are learning how to use scissors and are able to manipulate the play dough with rolling pins with increasing control. They are developing social skills as they enjoy being in each other's company and demonstrate this by playing co-operatively together. They are learning about taking turns and sharing. They are confident in following simple instructions, such as staff asking the children to help with tidying up.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by staff that have an understanding of individual children's needs. The provider obtains detailed information about each child's interests and individual needs from parents to ensure that children receive the appropriate care.

They are learning about the world in which they live as they have access to resources that promote positive images of different cultures. Children with learning difficulties or disabilities are welcomed into the nursery as staff have a positive attitude towards this area of childcare. There is a special educational needs co-ordinator to support the needs of children and to act in the best interests of each child. Children learn the boundaries of acceptable conduct in ways that they can understand, as staff use age-appropriate and positive strategies to manage any difficulties that arise.

Children benefit from the close partnership developed between parents and staff, as well as the value staff place on gaining parents' input. Parents receive detailed information about the nursery and the service it provides; this includes the prospectus and information about the nursery's policies and procedures. However, the setting has not yet implemented a complaints

log, recording any complaints that are made in relation to the National Standards for children's safety and wellbeing.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The provider is committed to the promotion of good quality childcare and supports staff through daily communication and regular meetings. The provider and manager work well together as a team, and focus on the needs of the children. Staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They support the children's play and ensure their safety.

Most of the required documentation is in place. Records are stored securely and confidentially. Most policies and procedures are in place and work in practice to safeguard children's care and wellbeing. Recruitment and vetting procedures are in place, thus ensuring that children are protected and cared for by suitable staff. Children's individual records are completed with parents, which ensures the appropriate care is provided. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

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 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 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):

- conduct risk assessments of the premises and action to be taken to minimise identified risks
- devise written procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer
- provide a complaints log.

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