

Redriff Daycare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY345818
Inspection date	11 September 2007
Inspector	Beverly Hallett
Setting Address	Redriff Junior & Infants School, Salter Road, LONDON, SE16 5LQ
Telephone number	07706 997003
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Registered person	Redriff Daycare
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?

Redriff Day Care opened in 2007. It is a privately owned setting operated by three partners, Denise Green, Linda Meredith and Ann Green. It operates from a large cabin in the grounds of Redriff Primary School. It supports recruitment and retention at the school, providing full day care for the children of teachers and support staff and other Southwark education employees. A maximum of nine children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.15 to 16.00, term time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently six children aged from three months to under five years on roll.

The nursery employs three members of staff. Of these, two hold appropriate Early Years qualifications and one is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's good health is suitably promoted. For example, staff wear disposable gloves to change nappies, and young babies all have their own personal feeder cups which are labelled. However, hygiene and cleaning routines are not always implemented consistently and this means the kitchen area and some of the toys used by younger children are not always cleaned effectively. For example, high chairs are sticky to the touch with, and the microwave where children's food is reheated is dirty, putting children's health at risk. In addition, the kitchen where food is served is also used for cleaning paint and glue pots, and these items are left in close contact with children's eating utensils.

Children enjoy a range of nutritious foods at lunch times which are provided by parents. Staff reheat the foods before giving them to children. Water is available for children to quench their thirst throughout the day. A large tray is placed on a table with children's beakers in it. Children then help themselves whenever they want a drink, promoting good self help skills. However, meal times are quite disorganised. Toddlers sit on chairs around one table, however, as staff are busy feeding smaller children in the high chairs, they receive little adult attention to encourage them to eat and sit at the table until their meal is finished. Whilst staff are calm and gentle in asking children to return to the table, children are not enjoying a calm and social mealtime in which to develop positive attitudes towards food and eating.

Children enjoy using the garden every day. They benefit from fresh air and develop confidence in their physical abilities, as they use the large sturdy plastic ride alongs and play in the small sand pit.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Some suitable precautions are taken to help children stay safe whilst in the setting. For example, the children do not leave the main room unsupervised and a safety gate prevents access to the kitchen. However, the outside area used by the nursery is not secure, and only staff supervision prevents children from wandering off into the unsuitable play area meant for older children which contains unsuitable equipment for this age group.

Inside, children's safety is at risk as toys are stored on top of tables where children can climb up and pull toys down on themselves, and television wires and plugs are left within children's reach. In the bathroom, toiletries are stored on low open shelves, and although staff supervise children when using this area, children easily avoid detection and touch items such as potties, baby wipes, spare nappies and tissues, when staff's backs are turned as they help children to wash their hands. In addition, the main hallway into the setting which is also one of the fire exit routes, is partially blocked by a pushchair and baby walker, slowing children's exit to escape a fire and putting them at risk.

Children play in a bright and suitably stimulating environment, which offers sufficient space for them to participate in an appropriate range of activities. Toys and resources are of a suitable design, and there is a good variety to occupy the number of children currently attending. A suitable sleep area also provides cots for children to rest and sleep in.

Suitable policies and procedures such as recording accidents which occur on the premises, support staff in protecting children in case of child protection concern and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children and babies enjoy their time at the nursery and are consistently and appropriately stimulated by the activities they are offered. Children are interested and involved in their play. Staff capture and extend their interest through good interaction; playing alongside children, talking calmly and gently to them and encouraging children to participate in activities, which appeal to them such as the cars and garage.

Children enthusiastically share stories with adults as they sit on the sofa and cuddle. Children shout out the next lines in familiar stories and very good staff interaction ensures all children are totally focussed throughout the tale. One strategy used to ensure children's enjoyment is to offer props, such as wands for them to wave as staff read a story about a fairy. This ensures children have an active session and helps to maintain the concentration and interest from beginning to end.

Children are beginning to use their imagination in pretend play situations such as dressing up and playing in the home area. However, as all toys are stored out of children's reach, their choice and independent play opportunities are restricted.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

A very well written policy sets out the setting's ethos on managing children's behaviour. The emphasis is on using positive strategies such as labelling feelings and ensuring children are busy and enjoying what they are doing. This positive approach means that children behave well, and staff manage the occasional negative incident appropriately, using gentle interaction and reminders to encourage sharing and turn taking.

Children are developing positive self images as the setting encourages them to share stories of their everyday life and displays their art work attractively. However, although the written policy states that resources will reflect a wide range of communities, children have very few opportunities to see diversity reflected in the toys, resources and environment which surround them.

Some information about the setting is available to parents through the notice board. This includes things such as staff qualifications, essential policies and contact numbers in case of complaints. Other information on children's care routines is shared verbally at the end of each day, encouraging a positive partnership with parents in which appropriate levels of information are shared. Parents are actively encouraged to visit the setting throughout the day to share time with their children and this creates a welcoming atmosphere in which children feel relaxed and comfortable, as they see the positive relationships between staff and their parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

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

Whilst there are some safety and hygiene issues which pose potential dangers to children, staff are vigilant in their supervision of children and these means those risks have minimal impact on the outcomes for children. However, regular risk assessments to ensure safety risks to children are identified and minimised are not used effectively.

Children are cared for by consistent staff team of kind, caring experienced adults who are appropriately vetted, due to effective recruitment procedures.

Records on individual children are appropriately maintained and information is shared with parents on children's care routines verbally on a daily basis, supporting consistency of care. However, children's continuity of care as not always ensured as parents are not always asked to sign medication and accident records.

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 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):

- assess the risks to children in relation to the toiletries and equipment stored on low open shelving in the bathroom and take action to minimise these
- ensure that all areas in which food is stored, prepared or reheated are kept in a hygienic condition at all times, being clean, well maintained, and free from play items such as glue pots
- ensure regular risk assessments are undertaken to ensure the storage of equipment within the play environment does not pose safety risks to children
- ensure all accident and medication records are signed by parents/carers
- implement rigorous and effective cleaning routines to ensure all toys and equipment used by children are kept clean and hygienic

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