

Educare Day Nursery Two

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	254610
Inspection date	04 February 2008
Inspector	Ann Keen
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Registered person	Johal Nursery & Co Limited
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are good.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Educare Day Nursery Two is one of two nurseries owned by the same proprietors and has been registered since 1998. It is situated on Pelham Road, off Sherwood Rise, close to the city centre. The nursery is registered to care for a maximum of 81 children under the age of eight years. Children are grouped according to their age and ability. There is access to a large enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 100 children on roll. This includes 27 funded children. Children attend a variety of sessions each week. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children with English as an additional language.

The nursery opens Monday to Friday, 52 weeks of the year apart from bank holidays. Sessions are from 07:30 until 18:30. This facility offers after school care for children under eight years and they collect from the two local primary schools.

21 childcare staff work with the children. 14 staff have early years qualifications to Level 2 or 3 and one member of staff has qualified teacher status. The setting receives support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children have a good range of resources to support their physical development. The outside area is well equipped to provide a secure place to play so children enjoy fresh air and exercise. Children develop their muscles and fitness effectively as they run around and use the apparatus outside. Children's control of handling small items like paint brushes and writing implements is developing their manipulative skills well. Inside, children can use the soft play area and slide for more exertive play.

Children are protected against infection well as they are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and babies hands are also washed before eating using individual flannels. Floors and toilets are cleaned regularly maintaining the building to a high standard of cleanliness. Adults remove their shoes in the baby room so they do not spread infection on the carpets where babies are crawling. Children are suitably nourished with healthy snacks and meals. They enjoy apples, cucumber and rice cakes which older children eat with enthusiasm. Babies are given their own menu and older children enjoy a well-balanced diet whilst in the nursery. Children have opportunities to rest and sleep on comfortable cushions and mattresses. Babies sleep in well maintained cots. Children's welfare is promoted well because staff respond to accidents appropriately; sufficient staff hold current first aid certificates, they record accidents carefully and keep an adequately equipped first aid box.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a secure environment. Proper precautions are taken to ensure children are safe through secure entry procedures such as recording visitors, and keypad codes are used at the entrance. Entry and exit times of all visitors are recorded so children are effectively safeguarded. Gates and fences are secure and locked keeping children very safe. Facilities are well maintained ensuring children's safety is promoted by reducing the possibility of accidents. Children are kept comfortable as the temperature is kept at an appropriate level.

When babies are sleeping they are constantly monitored and staff supervise them well at all times. Children's resources are well maintained, in good order and clean, making them safe for children to use. The equipment and resources are at child-height and accessible, developing their independence well and enabling them easy access, reducing the risk of accidents. A fire evacuation plan is in place so well-thought out procedures are in place to protect children in the case of accidental fire. Children are safeguarded well because staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues. There is a clear and comprehensive child protection policy and staff are knowledgeable about their roles and they are fully aware of the authorities to contact in case of concern.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive confidently and settle quickly to the activities on offer. They are learning to become self-assured as a consequence of positive relationships with staff who make efforts to get to know the children. This ensures they enjoy attending the nursery. Reward systems are used effectively to support children's care, learning and play; children look forward to receiving

a 'surprise' when they have accumulated sufficient stars. Staff work hard to create a friendly, supportive and caring atmosphere, developing children's self-esteem well. Children participate in the activities enthusiastically and appreciate having a wide selection of choices so they develop their independence well. Staff assess children's development enabling them to provide activities appropriate for children's abilities and needs. Staff listen to what children have to say which supports their confidence and helps children to learn to relate to others. Children's social skills are enhanced well through developing their communication skills. Children are welcomed to the after school club and have access to all the resources available, giving them suitable opportunities to choose their own play after a day at school.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff have a clear understanding of national guidelines for the Foundation Stage which supports children's learning effectively. The rooms are well organised to attract children into the setting with a good variety of activities laid out ready for the children as soon as they arrive. Through the use of challenging and demanding questioning the children are learning to think and extend their own ideas well. Staff generally use suitable methods to help children learn, although, some staff are inexperienced in developing children's learning so opportunities are missed to support children's progress. Planning is organised around the areas of learning to provide children with a broad and balanced programme of activities such as creating Chinese New Year cards, matching 'currants' on cookies to numbers and 'getting to grips' with technology by using a shredder. Staff assess the children's progress well through regular observations and they use the information gained to appreciate the next step in children's learning. Generally, staff are aware of children's different stages of development and aim to provide activities which challenge individuals and move them forward in their learning. Children benefit from the wide range of resources provided helping them with good opportunities to explore, experiment and play. Staff are clear in their expectations for good behaviour and provide consistent support to help children understand boundaries and expectations. Staff regularly praise children and are attentive to their individual needs.

Children's knowledge, skills and understanding are developing appropriately to help them to progress towards the early learning goals. They have positive and enthusiastic attitudes to learning and play. Children respond well to adults and have good relationships with them. Snack time is used well to establish clear routines and develop children's independence, for example, in enabling children to help themselves to snacks and drinks. Children show a keen interest in making marks on paper to represent meaning and older children are learning to form recognisable letters correctly. Children have mathematics activities planned regularly helping to understand about numbers, sizes and shapes well. Children have a good variety of outside experiences such as investigating with magnifying glasses, widening their knowledge of the natural world. The nursery organises a variety of visits such as a regular visits to the apple orchard, ensuring the children's interest is held and they are motivated to learn. Children are given a choice of craft materials so they develop their creative skills effectively, for example, by making Chinese New Year cards and their own pictures and paintings.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are included in activities and staff are committed to providing for the individual needs of children who attend the nursery. Children benefit from activities and resources which help them to value diversity and promote a positive view of the wider world. Children celebrate a variety of festivals such as Chinese New Year and children enthusiastically make cards copying

appropriate greetings. The staff are aware that some children have learning difficulties and /or disabilities and they work with the local authority staff and outside agencies to provide appropriate support and care. This proactive and inclusive approach from staff in the setting ensures that equality of opportunity is promoted well. Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered.

Children benefit from the positive partnership with parents regarding their care as parents receive a good variety of information about the setting such as daily menus. The nursery has now set up a room for parents and provides outstanding opportunities to support children's health and care, such as having contact with the health visitor and providing space for breast feeding. Plans for children's activities are displayed on the walls and parents receive diaries giving them useful information about their children's day.

The partnership with parents and carers of children in receipt of early education is good. The nursery has a session when parents are able to talk to staff about their children's educational progress. This gives staff and parents a good chance to exchange information and involve parents with their children's learning. Parents receive good quality information about the educational provision through a variety of sources supporting their children's learning well.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's health, safety, well-being and enjoyment are promoted by very good organisation. The required adult to child ratios meet requirements so children receive appropriate care and attention. There are suitable procedures to appoint new staff and staff are appropriately vetted. Although many staff are very experienced and use the 'Birth to three matters' framework well, some staff are still learning the best way to support children's development so opportunities are missed to support children's progress. Children's welfare and care are fostered by the use of documentation, for example, contact details are kept accurately so children are safeguarded and carers can be quickly contacted in emergencies. Children's records and registers are well maintained which helps to safeguard children. The rooms are well organised to meet children's individual requirements. Babies are looked after in well-equipped and spacious room and toddlers are able to move around selecting activities for themselves. Overall children's needs are met.

The leadership and management of nursery education is good. Children's learning is well supported through the nursery's ability to assess its own strengths and weaknesses. The nursery holds regular staff meetings to monitor and evaluate the educational provision. The management team are highly committed to improving nursery education and are constantly striving to improve their practice.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last care inspection the nursery was required to ensure that children's individual preferences were taken into account. The nursery plans activities providing choice and is aware of individual children's needs in their planning. This supports children's individual requirements and interests. They were also asked to ensure that fresh drinking water is available. Older children can help themselves to water and younger children and babies are offered drinks very regularly ensuring they do not get thirsty. The nursery was required to improve staff knowledge of good hygiene practices. Staff are aware of the necessary requirements to avoid spreading infection and put good practices into place so children's health is well promoted.

At the last education inspection it was recommended that the nursery continue to develop outside play. The nursery plans a wide range of activities covering many areas of learning so the outside is used effectively to support children's learning.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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.

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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 less experienced staff's skills of supporting children's play and care in line with the 'Birth to three matters' framework.

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):

- develop less experienced staff's knowledge and skills of supporting children's learning.

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