

Tynemouth Nursery Group @ N.T.C.

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY277702
Inspection date	22 November 2007
Inspector	Jim Bostock
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Registered person	Tynemouth Nursery Group Limited
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Tynemouth Nursery @ N.T.C is a private nursery, which is part of the Tynemouth Nursery Group Limited, run on behalf of North Tyneside College. The Nursery opened in April 2004, operating from a recently refurbished and extended building with four separate rooms and an out-door play area, within the grounds of North Tyneside College.

Registration is for 37 children up to eight years of age. At the time of inspection there were 27 children on the register, and six full time members of staff and a manager. The staff are qualified to the equivalent of NVQ level 3. The group opens 08.00 - 18.00 Monday to Friday, five days a week including school holidays.

The nursery caters for the children of students that attend North Tyneside College and places are also made available to the local community and surrounding areas.

The setting receives support from the Local Authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health and hygiene is well promoted as some staff have undertaken the basic food hygiene course. Children are encouraged to carry out daily routines including washing their hands before eating and after toileting. There are individual towels available for children to reduce the risk of cross infection. Staff remind the children why they wash their hands so that they learn about keeping themselves healthy. There are good nappy changing procedures which protect children's health. Accidents and medicine administered are recorded appropriately and well monitored to protect children. There is at least one member of staff with a current first aid qualification present during each session, which further protects children well.

Children receive a balanced and healthy diet including the provision of meals, fruit, snacks and drinks each day. The staff have a good understanding of the nutritional needs of children. Children's individual dietary needs are recorded and reflected in the meals and snacks provided and children with allergies or health needs are well catered for. Staff help children learn about healthy eating and encourage their independence as even the youngest toddlers are keen to use spoons and feed themselves. Children benefit from the good communication between staff and parents about food and drink issues with the service fully respecting any requests from parents. Children have easy and constant access to drinking water within the playrooms.

Children's physical development is promoted through regular active play. They use the outdoor area where they have access to large play equipment and outdoor activities. They have indoor music and movement sessions which they thoroughly enjoy. For instance, they twirl ribbons and ring bells in time to music. They develop fine muscle control by participating in activities such as craft, cut and glue and painting.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment which is light and in good decorative order. Children are made to feel welcome because there are many examples of their work on the walls. The service promotes child safety within the building by encouraging children to be aware of danger and keeping themselves safe, as well as taking precautions to reduce the risk to children. However, the risk assessments have not clearly identified all dangers leaving children at some risk from accessing dangerous items. Close supervision of children is used by the staff to help prevent accidents and keep children safe. The service has good fire safety procedures and has made provision for a safe and efficient evacuation, including good written plans and records of practice evacuations. The arrival and collection of children is well planned and keeps them safe as the premises are secure.

There are good quality toys, playthings and equipment to meet children's needs. Toys and playthings are stored at child height for ease of access and to support their play and development. Children can rest and relax according to their needs.

Staff have a good awareness of the issues involved in protecting children from abuse and all undertake training, with senior staff doing an advanced training course. There are good policies and procedures in place to protect children and good information available for parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and settled at the nursery because they enjoy warm and caring relationships with the staff. They interact confidently with staff who show a detailed understanding of their individual needs. Children are encouraged to be independent with support and guidance in selecting and using the toys and equipment effectively. For instance, they were given the choice of story, song or milk. They chose song and enthusiastically joined in the "Roly Poly" song where staff modelled the actions for children to copy. Expressive and enthusiastic language is used by the staff when interacting with the children, who respond with enthusiasm and interest. Children's abilities and confidence are developed through effective use of the wide selection of resources available.

Staff have a good understanding of the development of children putting into practise skills and methods gained from experience and relevant training. Children's self esteem is developed through the staff valuing each child's contribution. Children benefit from a planned activity programme which encourages their interest and progress. Older children say they enjoy playing with trains, dolls and dressing up. They paint and make Christmas globes in craft activities and enjoy stories. Babies and toddlers enjoy making music with drums, tambourines and bells while staff sing the "Jingle Bells" song. They are absorbed in playing with the activity centre, jigsaws and construction toys. Activities are linked very well to the 'Birth to three matters' framework and the early learning goals of the Foundation Stage for children aged three to five. Parents are fully involved in their children's experiences from information in development files and regular discussions with staff.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for as individuals with differences being acknowledged and enjoyed. Children gain an understanding of the wider world and their local community through activities linked to culture and festivals such as, Chinese New year, Christmas and Divali. There are some toys and playthings for multicultural play, however, there are few images of difference and diversity immediately available for children. This hinders children in their development of positive attitudes about diversity. In addition, children who speak English as a second language are not well supported. There are systems in place to support children with learning difficulties or disabilities.

Children learn to be respectful and interact positively as staff are good role models. Children develop self confidence very well because they receive lots of praise and encouragement. They are eager to participate in activities and respond very well to the staff. They learn to share, relate well to each other and behave very well. Children are proud of their achievements and readily help in the setting, for instance, by tidying up.

Relationships with parents are promoted and developed well. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress and details of their physical care on a daily basis both verbally and from individual files. Parents are fully informed and consulted about all aspects of the care provided with the staff incorporating parents requests into the service where possible. Parents comments about the service are very positive. They feel they receive good information, relate well to staff and their children thoroughly enjoy attending sessions and are developing very well.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The service provides clear routines and organised activities which give children confidence in the setting. Children benefit from the relevant training attended by the staff which is reflected in the good standard of care provided. All of the staff are qualified and they have access to very good ongoing training which helps them to effectively meet the needs of children. The well planned daily routine, and well resourced setting, allows children to experience a wide variety of stimulating and interesting activities.

The documentation kept enhances the care provided by being relevant and well organised apart from the register of attendance where staff times are not clearly recorded. The records are stored in a way that ensures confidentiality. There are written policies and procedures to meet the National Standards and they are accessible to parents. The service has current public liability insurance cover so that children are well protected. The certificate is displayed on the wall as is required. All staff are cleared to ensure their suitability to work with children.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provision was asked to improve the recording of accidents and medicine. These records are now clear and include written permissions for medicine administered and parent's signatures to show they have been informed and to help them meet children's needs.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 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):

- develop risk assessments to give clear guidance to staff about dangers to children and how to minimise or avoid them
- develop the availability of positive images of difference and diversity for children

- ensure children with English as an additional language have appropriate support from the start of the placement.

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