

Queensberry Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY341130
Inspection date	18 June 2007
Inspector	Janet Sharon Williams
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Registered person	Queensberry Nursery 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Queensbury Day Nursery was registered in November 2006. It operates from a converted property in Kensington in the London Borough of Kensington. A maximum of 54 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is opened each weekday from 08.00 to 18.00 for 48 weeks of the year.

There are currently 68 children aged from one to under five years on roll. Children come from the local catchment area. The nursery currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and there are no children with learning disabilities.

The nursery employs 12 full-time and two part-time members of staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualification and two are working towards a qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children establish good health and hygiene practices. For example, they wash their hands after using the toilet and before and after meals. This protects them from cross contamination where possible. Effective procedures are also in place for nappy changing and for the cleanliness of toys and equipment.

Some staff hold a first aid certificate and each group room has a first aid box. Staff clearly understand and implement the policies for administering medicine, for recording accidents and incidents. However, accidents that occur outside of nursery hours have not been recorded. Parents give prior written consent to administer medication this ensures children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. All medication administered have been countersigned by parents.

Children benefit from nutritious meals that are freshly prepared and cooked on the premises. For instance, meals consist of a selection of vegetables and fresh fruit. Their information is gathered regarding their diet. This ensures their dietary needs are met. Children are offered fresh drinking water at regular intervals and considerations are given for babies.

Some children enjoy regular exercise that contributes to their good health. For example, older children make use of the empty rooms on the premises where they can run and play ball and they also benefit from outings to the local park. However, these children have few opportunities to use climbing apparatus. Younger children have few occasions to develop their physical skills, such as manoeuvre sit and ride toys, run freely in open space and have plenty of fresh air.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's safety is maintained at all time. A good risk assessment procedure is in place and staff ensure all areas, toys and equipment are frequently checked to make sure they are safe and in condition. Fire and emergency evacuation procedures are maintained, practised and recorded. There are also routines in place for monitoring the safe arrival and departure of children.

The premises is bright welcoming and well maintained. Some activities are appropriately organised where children are motivated to make choices from the resources stored at child level. For example, play activity centres, water and sand trays, access puzzles, cars and trains. However, the home corner area has limited resources and equipment for children to use their imagination and participate in role play. Children also have access to few large and small construction bricks.

Children's well-being is also promoted through staff's clear understanding of the child protection procedures and signs and symptoms of abuse. Although the policy includes allegations against a member of staff, it is not clear of what procedures are followed.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and relaxed. They participate in a good range of play and activities, such as playing with water and sand, enjoy playing with cars and trains and create art work with various coloured paint and materials. Children also join in with songs and rhymes and enjoy circle games. Staff support children in their play, observe and plan children's learning and development through using the Birth to three matters and the six areas of learning from the Foundation Stage curriculum. Although, there are few activities and resources for children to use their imagination creatively, activities planned are based on the knowledge of the children, what they like to do and their stage of development. Effective systems for observing and recording children's development are in place, where staff use their notes to assess children's achievements.

Babies have the opportunity to explore new experiences; they enjoy hand and body painting. Their individual routines are followed; this contributes to their well being, care and learning needs. Children have good warm relationships with staff. They receive lots of warmth and affection and staff are frequently talking and listening to the children. Children also benefit from an outside music teacher where they do music, dance and drama, which also extends their learning opportunities.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children and staff are from a wide diverse group, for example, Europe, South and East Africa and America. Children have opportunities to relate well to others and develop an awareness of different cultures through acknowledging various festivity events, such as Diwali and Chinese New Year. However, resources and play material that reflect diversity and to raise children's knowledge about disability are limited.

There are currently no children with special needs attending the nursery, however, an inclusive and welcoming environment means that children with learning disabilities are welcome into the nursery. Children have opportunities to develop and practise social skills, playing and learning together in small groups. Their behaviour is good, they learn right from wrong and staff actively praise and encourage positive behaviour through using stars. Staff are good role models and are relaxed and friendly.

The nursery staff have established a good relationship with parent. All the necessary information on children and parents have been clearly collated to ensure children's individual needs are met. The information pack includes clear detailed and useful information for parents. Parents evenings are arranged throughout the year to discuss children's progress. Parents interviewed are very happy with the care their child receives and are encouraged to be involved in the nursery events and their child's learning.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared in an environment that allows them to move around safely and freely. They are cared for by suitably qualified staff who have been appropriately vetted. Staff are also keen to improve their child care skills through additional training. They can also easily access the handbook on training.

Children to adult ratio is well maintained which contributes to children's care, learning and play. They are organised in age appropriate groups. Most of the required documentation policies and procedures are in place, well maintained and kept up to date to promote the health and well being of the children.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

First inspection

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):

- ensure younger children have appropriate physical exercise and older children are given the opportunity to enhance their bodily skills
- ensure accidents that occur outside the nursery hours are recorded
- improve resources and equipment to develop children's imaginative, creativity and hand and eye co-ordination
- review child protection policy with regards to allegations made against a member of staff
- provide a range for toys and play materials to promote equality of opportunities and anti discriminatory practice

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