

Ladybird Babies and Toddlers Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	152955
Inspection date	24 July 2007
Inspector	Deborah Jane Orchard

Setting Address	277 Goldhawk Road, London, W12 8EU
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Registered person	Julie Booth-Penman
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Type of inspection	Childcare
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Type of care	Full day care
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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?

Ladybird Baby and Toddler Nursery opened in 2001. It is one of four privately owned independent nurseries. It operates from a low level purpose built building in Shepherds Bush in the London borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. A maximum of 18 children may attend at any one time. The nursery is open from Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 18:00. Children attend a variety of sessions. There is no enclosed outdoor area, however, children are taken on regular visits to the nearby park. There are currently 31 under two years on roll. At the age of two years children can move to the pre school which caters for children from two to under five years.

Children attend from the local and wider community. The nursery currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs six members of staff. Five, including the manager, hold recognised early years qualifications. The additional member of staff is a qualified nurse. The nursery also employs a cook.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is being supported by suitable policies and procedures which are in place. For example, staff wear protective gloves and aprons when changing nappies. Staff hold recognised first aid certificates and record temperatures when children are unwell. However, written permission has not been obtained from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment. This reduces protection for children.

Children develop an understanding of the importance of good hygiene routine as the staff assist them in washing their hands before meals and after activities, discussing the reasons for doing this. The premises is kept clean and shoes are removed before entering the play areas. This helps protect children from the risk of infection.

Children and babies benefit from a healthy diet. They are provided with a range of healthy foods, which are served at the correct consistency to meet their individual needs. They sit in suitable highchairs to eat their meals and have opportunities to develop their self help skills as they select finger foods and use spoons to feed themselves. Babies are offered appropriate levels of support from staff. Special dietary requirements are complied with, which ensures the children remain healthy. Drinking water is offered throughout the day.

Children and babies have opportunities for fresh air and exercise as they regularly visit the nearby park. They participate in a range of physical activities to develop their large muscle movements. These include, climbing through low level apparatus and tunnels and joining in action songs. Babies stretch their bodies and develop their hand and eye co-ordination as they reach for toys on the rugs. They develop small muscle movements as they use large paint brushes to make pictures.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are able to play and move freely in an environment which is welcoming and bright. The staff are aware of the importance of identifying and reducing potential hazards. For example, they are vigilant when opening the main door to ensure children are not harmed. Children's safety is protected as they are carefully supervised by staff. Children are able to learn about keeping safe as they practise fire evacuation procedures and staff explain safety issues during daily routines. Staff ensure children's safety on outings. There is a relevant policy in place, although there is currently no specific written parental permission place to further support this.

Children have access to suitable equipment to meet their needs, these are kept clean and in reasonable repair. There is a range of age appropriate toys and resources available, some of which are stored within the children's reach to help them make independent choices.

Children are safeguarded because protection of children is recognised by the setting as being important. The deputy manager is the designated person for any child protection issues. The staff team are aware of recognising possible indicators of abuse and there are written procedures in place for staff to follow should they have any concerns about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the nursery as they are able to participate in a range of interesting activities. The Birth to three matters framework is being used by staff to plan a variety of experiences for younger children. The staff team make observations of the children's progress, which helps to identify the next steps in their development. These are recorded in individual profiles and shared with parents.

Children have opportunities to be creative as they paint pictures on a large easel and grasp chunky crayons to make their own pictures. They develop their imagination as they play with a variety of bags and take out pretend food from a large container. Babies enjoy exploring a variety of textures as they empty the treasure basket. They squeal with delight as they play peek-a-boo with silk scarves and anticipate being found.

Children are developing their language skills as the staff talk about the different toy animals as they play with these on the floor. Babies are finding a voice as they babble to express themselves. The children enjoy playing alongside each other as they play with a variety of musical instruments and sing familiar songs. They listen to music tapes as they clap enthusiastically and bounce up and down to the different tunes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are being well cared for and respected in the setting. They benefit from the warm interaction with staff, who recognise each child as an individual. Information is gathered from parents to ensure their needs and beliefs are recognised and met. Children have access to a range of resources that enable them to develop a positive view of diversity within society. These include dolls, pictures and books. Children with English as an additional language receive support. The staff learn key words in different languages to help ensure children understand and feel secure. All children are valued within the setting as staff have a positive attitude towards inclusion, which reflects in their approach.

Children behave well as they spend their time purposefully engaged in meaningful play. They receive lots of praise and encouragement in their daily activities which helps to develop confidence and self esteem. A behaviour management policy is in place which helps ensure staff are consistent in their approach. Children are able to learn right from wrong as the staff encourage them to be kind to each other, share and take turns.

Children benefit from friendly relationships between staff, parents and carers. There are good opportunities for verbal communication each day. In addition, parents receive written daily reports containing details of sleep, feeding, toileting patterns and activities the children participate in. Parents and carers have opportunities to meet formally to discuss their child's development and to attend social events throughout the year. A notice board is provided which contains relevant information and policy details. These include details of the complaints procedure if parents wish to make a complaint. Parents and carers comments reflect they are very happy with the service they receive.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The staff team work well together ensuring children's needs are being met and they receive positive play experiences. The daily routines take into account regular meals, nappy changing, rest periods and physical activities. There is a key worker system in place, however, this is not consistently implemented, which impacts on children's sense of security and belonging.

The setting has a commitment to continuously improve as they attend training and receive support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership. The staff are being supported in their work through induction procedures, meetings and yearly appraisals. There are clear recruitment procedures in place to ensure staff are being vetted. The children are being well supervised and not left alone with any person who is unchecked.

Most of the required documentation is in place and kept up to date. However, written consent for seeking emergency medical treatment and taking children on outings has been overlooked, which reduces protection for children. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last care inspection the setting was judged as good. The provider was asked to improve documentation by ensuring a record of accidents was in place. In addition the setting was required to record arrival and departure times of children attending.

The setting has an accident record book in place, which contains the required detail. There is a daily register of children's attendance including the arrival and departure times. This helps to safeguard children.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made 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 can be seen 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):

- obtain written parental permission for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment

- ensure written permission is obtained from parents for taking children on outings
- strengthen the key worker system to ensure it is being effectively used

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