

Alice's Wonderland Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY348089
Inspection date	30 July 2007
Inspector	Jennifer Devine
Setting Address	Alice's Wonderland Nursery Ltd, Carmel Hall Community Centre, Morland Gardens, London, NW10 8EA
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Registered person	Alice's Wonderland Nursery Ltd
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?

Alice's Wonderland Nursery is owned by a private provider. It opened in 2007 and operates in a community centre hall in Stonebridge in the London borough of Brent. A maximum of 62 children may attend at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday between 07:00 to 19:00, all year round. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 30 children aged from birth to under five years on roll.

The nursery employs seven staff. six of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is promoted as the premises are maintained to a high standard of cleanliness. This means that babies can learn to crawl around the floor with no risk to their health. Toys and equipment in the whole nursery are regularly cleaned and particular attention is given to

ensuring the baby toys are cleaned through out the day to prevent the spread of infection. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their personal hygiene, by learning to take themselves to the bathroom and washing their hands at appropriate times. Staff maintain good levels of hygiene, wearing protective aprons and gloves when changing nappies.

All staff hold first aid certificates which ensures the children's safety in a medical emergency. Procedures are in place for medication administration and accident recording. However, parents written prior consent to administer medication has not been sought and some accident records are missing, which compromises children's overall well being.

Children benefit from a nutritious, healthy diet. They enjoy mostly freshly prepared home cooked foods and are provided with snacks such as savoury biscuits or a variety of fruits. Older children can request a drink of water through out the day and babies are offered regular drinks. Children's individual dietary needs are well known by staff and adhered too.

Children have good daily opportunities for physical activity which encourages their good health and physical development. The outdoor area provides children with experiences where they can run, climb and release energy together with getting regular fresh air. They also have regular outings outdoors for walks around the neighbourhood such as going the local shops to buy food for tea time.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff provide a warm welcome to the children and parents who bring their children into the nursery to settle them. The setting is clean, well maintained and attractively decorated with children's artwork and posters.

The nursery is well equipped with appropriate furniture and resources which are safe and kept clean. There is suitable equipment for babies to eat comfortably either in highchairs or at very low tables and chairs and rest on appropriate low beds. The setting has a wide range of good quality toys and play equipment, they are stored for easy accessibility by children, enabling them to make free choices about their play.

Staff are aware of safety issues within the nursery and conduct daily assessments to ensure all areas used by the children remain safe. Good security devises are in place such as close circuit television to monitor the entrance of the nursery. Fire evacuation procedures are in place and children are learning about evacuating the building quickly and safely when taking part in fire drills.

Children and staff's attendance is recorded in the daily register. However, these records are inconsistently maintained and this compromises children's safety.

Staff have a clear knowledge of child protection issues. They understand the signs and symptoms of child abuse and know the reporting procedures to follow if concerned about a child's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive at the nursery and are happy to see each other and staff. Most children separate well from their parent or carer and quickly settle in the nursery routine. They enjoy a good

range of interesting activities where they acquire new skills and knowledge in a stimulating and supportive environment. Children thoroughly enjoy a range of creative activities as they enthusiastically participate in sticking activities, delight in making play dough where they help to knead the sticky dough or choose from a wide range of junk modelling materials to make individual models.

Staff are kind and affectionate to the children and support their learning well. They are skilled at providing an environment where children become independent learners and provide guidance and support as required. They also spend time working directly with groups of children and interact all the time to encourage children's language and thinking further. Children have developed good relationships with each other and are learning to share and take turns.

Children learn about the local environment when they go out for walks around the neighbourhood or when they visit the local temple.

Staff use the Birth to three matters framework to guide their planning for the children under three years and have a good understanding of providing an environment for young children to explore and investigate their surroundings. Children have lots of opportunities to learn through exploration and thoroughly enjoy heuristic play with treasure baskets. Young children feel secure and grow in confidence because of the continual interest and warmth shown by staff.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff are aware of individual children's needs which promotes children's happiness and security within the setting. Children's confidence develops through having the opportunity to make choices about their play and through the respect and care shown to them.

Children have access to a good range of resources and activities to promote a positive view of the local community and wider world. Staff have plans in place to acknowledge relevant festivals and celebrations over the forthcoming year.

Although no children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities currently attend the nursery, appropriate strategies are in place to support children and their families.

Children's behaviour overall is generally good. For most of the day as they are engaged in meaningful play they are busy and not distracted. However after lunch time staff are disorganised and this results in some boisterous and disruptive play.

Information about the nursery is made available to parents to ensure they are aware of policies and procedures. Staff have established good communication with parents, and are approachable to discuss their child's day. Daily link books are also completed to keep parents well informed and parents can choose to take these books home and add their comments if they wish to do so. Newsletters are produced regularly and the notice board provides valuable up to date information.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The nursery is managed and organised satisfactorily. Staff work well together as a team and work closely with the children offering appropriate support in their play. However, the

deployment of staff after lunch time is disorganised and children lack adult direction to prevent any unwanted behaviour occurring.

Children's welfare is safeguarded because robust recruitment procedures are in place to ensure all staff working with children are suitable. Most of the staff hold appropriate qualifications and the registered person is committed to the professional development of the staff and actively encourages staff to attend further training.

Most the required policies and procedures are in place. However, some records such as medication, accident and attendance records do not contain all the necessary, required information.

The setting meets the needs of the children for whom it provides.

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):

- ensure children and staff's attendance is accurately recorded
- ensure parent's prior written permission consent is obtained for administering any medication
- ensure all accident records are maintained and available for inspection
- develop methods of deploying staff to ensure children's overall welfare is maintained at all times

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