

# Coat of Many Colours Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY347369
<b>Inspection date</b>	26 July 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Keriann Belcher
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<b>Registered person</b>	RCCG Kingsborough Family Church
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Coat of Many Colours Nursery is a registered charity managed by a board of trustees. It opened in 2007 and operates from a number of rooms within a converted building in Uxbridge, in the London borough of Hillingdon. A maximum of 24 children may attend the nursery at any one time. Currently there are 11 children aged from one year to four years old on roll. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:30 to 18:00 for 51 weeks of the year. Children currently do not have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. Children attend from the local and wider community. The nursery employs four staff including the manager, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery also employs a cook.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are offered a varied diet, which includes vegetables and fresh fruit. Meals are prepared by the cook on a daily basis and children's individual dietary needs are well known and adhered to. Older children are able to help themselves to water from the fountain provided and younger

children are given regularly drinks to prevent them becoming dehydrated. Snacks of savoury biscuits, bread sticks or fruit are offered with a drink of milk morning and afternoon.

There are satisfactory methods in place to sustain levels of hygiene and prevent cross infection, such as staff wear disposable gloves when changing nappies and children do not attend nursery if they are unwell. However, there is no soap available for children to use when hand washing after using the toilet or before eating. A staff member who holds a valid first aid certificate is always present on duty, which enables the nursery to confidently deal with any medical emergencies. Accident and medication records are well maintained.

Although, the nursery does not currently have access to an outdoor play area, children are developing a positive attitude to physical exercise. They have regular opportunities to visit the local soft play activity centre or participate in parachute games. There are satisfactory opportunities for young children to crawl and move freely within the indoor play space.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

The staff provide a warm welcome to the children and parents who bring their children into the nursery to settle them in. The setting is clean and brightly decorated. The nursery is generally well equipped with furniture and resources.

Children are cared for in a generally safe and secure environment. There are satisfactory security precautions on the premises, whereby visitors ring the door bell and staff unlock the door for them to gain access to the premises. On occasions the door is not easily opened or the key is not available which could compromise children's safety in the event of an emergency. Fire drills are carried out regularly which ensures children gain an awareness of emergency evacuation procedures. However, a fire exit is blocked and the equipment required to evacuate the building is not always easily accessible.

Children's welfare is safeguarded as staff have a satisfactory understanding of the possible signs and symptoms of child abuse and understand the procedures to follow for child protection. However, the policy does not include what the procedure is, if an allegation of abuse was made against a staff member. Children's safety is also maintained due to the effective procedures in place to confirm the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is satisfactory.

Overall children enjoy their time at nursery. Most children are happy and settle well into the nursery setting. The routine at times during the day is not always effectively organised to ensure all children are happy and engaged in meaningful play. Both the older and younger play together in one room as the number of children currently attending is low. This affects some of the younger children as staff are unable to provide a comforting, calm environment with age appropriate activities.

Children have the opportunity to participate in creative activities such as drawing, sand play and painting. However, these are not freely available and restricted to focused activity times. On occasions the children become bored and their behaviour is disruptive to other children.

Children enjoy singing nursery rhymes and songs which develops their language and communication skills. They also have the opportunity to attend the local library story time and to look at the books.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from being cared for in an emotionally warm, child friendly environment where overall staff are aware of children's individual needs. They are provided with a satisfactory range of meaningful resources that reflect positive images, such as books, puzzles and dolls. They also learn about festivals and traditions celebrated in the local and wider community.

The setting has a generally good understanding of the needs of children with learning difficulties and /or disabilities. There is a well written special needs policy which acknowledges children's individuality and

recognises the benefit to children of working in partnership with outside agencies.

Children are generally well behaved, but staff do not always recognise and manage appropriately the source of children's unwanted behaviour such as a child who was bored and was running around the room or another who was playing with the sand when it was not available as an activity.

Children benefit from the positive relationship encouraged between parents and the nursery. Regular newsletters and meetings also keep parents well informed about the nursery activities. All children have a daily diary that gives parents information about their child's day and is an effective method of communication between the nursery and the child's home.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children share satisfactory relationships with staff that have been thoroughly vetted for their suitability to work with young children. Staff work generally well together and support each other with their roles and responsibilities. However, the current organisation of the all children playing together is not managed well to ensure interesting and stimulating activities. At times, children become disengaged and staff lack the knowledge to manage this behaviour which results in unwanted behaviour.

Overall, children benefit from satisfactory standards of hygiene but children's awareness of good hygiene practises is limited when hand washing.

Most policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision and for the children's wellbeing are in place. However, the safeguarding children's policy does not include the procedure to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member. Generally the staff ensure appropriate measures are taken to avoid dangerous situations. However, the fire regulations are not always complied with which compromises children's safety.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom they 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):

- improve the hygiene practises for hand washing
- enhance the range of activities available for the children to engage in meaningful play
- enhance the staffs knowledge and understanding of behaviour management
- enhance the Safe Guarding children's policy to include the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against a staff member
- comply with fire safety recommendations.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)