



Nestots Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY264479
Inspection date	11 October 2005
Inspector	Cheryl Walker
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Registered person	Nescot
Type of inspection	Integrated
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 AND NURSERY EDUCATION

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.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are good.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Nestots Day Nursery opened in 2003. It operates from a purpose-built, single-storey building set within the grounds of Nescot College on the outskirts of Epsom and Ewell. Children are cared for in groups according to their age. Additional facilities include a fully enclosed outside play area, utility room, kitchen, office and staff room. The day nursery is available to the children of staff and students from Nescot College, as well as to the general public.

There are currently 86 children, aged from 3 months to 5 years, on roll. This includes 16 funded 3- year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery supports children who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs.

The nursery opens 50 weeks a year, from 08:00 to 18:00, Monday to Friday. The nursery employs 18 staff, 13 of whom hold an appropriate childcare qualification. The nursery receives support from the Surrey Early Years and Childcare Service.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children begin to understand simple good health and hygiene practices because clear procedures are in place and are effectively used by staff. For example, staff wash their hands before serving children's food and remind children to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet.

A healthy balance of freshly cooked meals ensures children are well nourished. Children have their health and dietary needs met because staff work well with parents and cater for any individual dietary needs. Children can rest according to their needs. All children have clean, individual bedding which helps to reduce any risk of cross infection. Accident, incident and medicine records are maintained but are not consistently signed by parents to indicate that they have been informed.

Children enjoy regular opportunities for physical exercise because outdoor play is timetabled into the planning for each group room. A good range of outdoor equipment stimulates interest and challenge. Children develop self confidence in their large physical skills by frequently having the chance to run, climb and cycle. Staff involve themselves in children's play to encourage skills such as throwing and catching.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a safe, secure and welcoming environment. The premises are clean and resources are plentiful and in good condition. Clear procedures are in place to reduce hazards and minimise risk. Staff regularly risk assess and check areas used by the children for safety. Children can move around the building safely and are well supervised due to high staffing levels.

Children's welfare is paramount and staff protect them from possible abuse due to a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Staff attend training to enhance their knowledge in this area and are clear on reporting procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children independently choose from a range of activities that are easily accessible and provide stimulation. They benefit from the strong bonds with the consistent staff members who look after them, which fosters their emotional wellbeing and helps them to achieve. They enter confidently and settle quickly at their chosen activity. Warm interaction and enthusiastic involvement from staff enables children to relax and enjoy the comfortable surroundings and in turn encourages them to make good progress in their development.

Nursery

The quality of teaching and learning are good. Children progress well, supported by staff's experience, confidence and knowledge of the Foundation Stage. Detailed plans cover the areas of learning and demonstrate staff's understanding of curriculum guidance.

Staff effectively use incidental written observations to evaluate and record what the children can do. Staff use this to highlight areas they need to develop and to plan for the children's next stage of learning. Teaching methods are good. Staff asks questions and use conversation to extend children's thinking and vocabulary. Regular and interesting conversations take place with staff using words and sign language to communicate. Children have fun while they learn because staff are enthusiastic and use props to enhance children's enjoyment.

Children make good progress in all areas of learning. They show a sense of belonging as they greet each other, converse together and co-operate during play. Children are interested in their work and concentrate well for story time and focus activities. They are keen to communicate through speech and can hold interesting conversations with adults and their peers. Children gain good understanding of number through practical situations. Opportunities for them to explore through creative materials such as sand and water are limited to outdoor play and there is a limited supply of creative materials such as paint for children to access freely.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

All children are welcomed and included in the setting because staff highly value and respect their individuality. They receive clear and positive messages about difference which enhances their understanding of the wider world and develops sensitivity towards others. Excellent support for children with special needs ensures all children can fully participate in all activities. Staff and children use Makaton sign language to aid in communication and children relish in the songs and rhymes that use Makaton actions. High levels of support are given to children with English as an additional language. Staff learn and speak some words in the child's mother tongue to enable children to feel secure and to assist in communication. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered.

Children behave extremely well. Staff have high expectations and are positive role models throughout the nursery, regularly praising good behaviour. Children often remember to say please and thank you without being prompted. Good explanations encourage children's understanding of right and wrong and which behaviours may be unacceptable.

Partnership with parents is outstanding. Children benefit from extremely effective communication through excellent verbal and written relationships with parents which contribute to children's wellbeing. Parents receive daily information about their children and regular written reports which keep them consistently aware of their children's progress.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are well supported by a highly competent, consistent staff team who have good all round understanding of their care and learning needs. Robust recruitment procedures ensure children's safety. A comprehensive range of policies and procedures effectively guide staff in their work. All required documentation is in place.

Leadership and management of the nursery education is good. Staff meet regularly and have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They are encouraged to develop their skills and knowledge through very good training opportunities. There is strong commitment to improving the provision and good use is made of outside support. Overall the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was asked to continue to develop the outdoor area to extend children's learning. A good range of outdoor equipment is consistently available for children to promote physical play. Children have opportunities for planting bulbs as large tubs are now sited in the outdoor area. Further equipment is due to arrive shortly.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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 AND NURSERY EDUCATION

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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 entries in the accident, medicine and incident books are consistently signed by parents.

The quality and standards of the nursery education

To improve the quality and standards of nursery education further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- expand children's opportunities to freely access creative activities such as sand, water and paint.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk