



## Peckham Rye Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY283916
<b>Inspection date</b>	05 July 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Alison Joan Wadley
<b>Setting Address</b>	24 Waveney Avenue, Peckham Rye, London, SE15 3UE
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<b>Registered person</b>	Asquith Court Nurseries Limited
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Integrated
<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*

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## 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are satisfactory.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Peckham Rye Day Nursery, owned by Asquith Court Schools Limited provides full day care and is registered to take 67 children aged under 5 years. There are currently 86 children on roll. There are no children attending for whom English is an additional language. The nursery is located in a residential area close to Peckham Rye Park in South East London. It is accommodated in a two storey building and children have access to an outdoor area. The nursery is open from 8.00am-18:00pm

Monday to Friday, 51 weeks a year. There are 17 staff members who hold a range of qualifications. The nursery provides funded places for 3 and 4 year old children in conjunction with the local Early Years partnership and there are currently 30 in receipt of Nursery Education Grant.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children's health at the nursery is given priority in an environment which is warm and well maintained. They are well supported by staff who have a clear understanding of health and hygiene procedures. Staff take positive steps to encourage children's understanding of health for example, by encouraging tidying up activities and good hand washing habits.

Children are beginning to understand the importance of a healthy diet through regular discussions, activities and exposure to nutritious foods. They have regular water and healthy snacks and lunch provided is well balanced and varied to meet individual needs and preferences.

The children under two years old benefit from a comfortable and stimulating selection of floor activities which encourages them to try new skills such as crawling through tunnels and taking their first steps. Daily access to outdoor play allows the children good opportunities to test their large muscle skills and begin to develop an increasing awareness of the potential of their bodies. Participation in a generally well supported range of activities supports skills for example in climbing, balance and co-ordination but the older children are not always fully challenged to reach their potential in this area.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from being in an environment which is generally well organised and well maintained. Those in the older age group room have limited space at times, however and this prevents them from fully utilising resources and activities on offer. The children use equipment which is of a good standard and appropriate to their age and stage of development.

Staff have a clear understanding of their role to keep children safe and have trained in child protection procedures in line with the Local Authority. Information is clear and shared with parents and this contributes to children's wellbeing. Children's safety is given priority at the nursery and regular risk assessments on the premises and equipment ensure this is maintained for the most part. Risk of accidental injury is minimised in this way and recorded as appropriate.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from being involved in a range of fun and interesting activities which motivate and encourage their development and learning in most areas. They behave well and show an increasing understanding of the daily routines and boundaries set by staff.

Babies explore the stimulating environment with enthusiasm, demonstrating new found skills, for example such as taking their first steps and responding to tactile materials. They are able to get to know staff well and demonstrate a growing awareness of social skills when interacting with others.

Children of two to three years of age move about activities and resources with increasing confidence. Some observations of their achievements help staff to provide for individual needs and interests and most staff know the children well. However information gained about the children's skills is not always used for planning. This results in overly adult led activities; including missed opportunities to enable children to initiate their own learning by extending their interests in a given area.

Children's progress in the Foundation Stage is satisfactory. The quality of teaching and learning is satisfactory overall and at times good.

Children show a good level of personal and social skills and are able to make friendships with their peers. They behave well, talk and listen with considered thought. The children engage in a generally good range of interesting and exciting activities but plans do not always focus on individual children's skills and interests and this results in some missed opportunities, for example to encourage use of mathematical language and problem solving. They show particular skills and benefit from challenging activities in communication, language and literacy. This has resulted in a wealth of pictures and stories around the nursery which reflect the children's interests and experiences. The children show increasing confidence in their environment and are for the most part able to choose and explore resources which interest them and encourage thought. At other times, overcrowding in the group room prevents children from using resources to their fullest capacity.

Children's progress in mathematics is extended well overall in each learning area but limitations in planning aims results in missed opportunities to extend knowledge of for example, in addition and subtraction. The children demonstrate increasing creativity in movement and coordination skills but are not always fully challenged based on staff's knowledge of their ability.

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

The provision is good.

The nursery provides a good range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the world such as books, imaginative and photographs that show people from different cultures. Social events such as the nursery disco encourages children to

meet families of other children attending and form friendships.

The nursery does not currently have children attending with special educational needs or for whom English is an additional language. However, staff engage well with parents and other professionals to ensure that children's additional needs are met when necessary.

Children behave well in the nursery and are learning to manage their own behaviour when taking turns and sharing resources, for example, when they make construction models and play in the water tray.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents are welcomed into the setting and are able to contribute to their child's learning and join in with nursery parties and outings. Parents feel that the key worker system works well to help their children settle quickly and make good progress.

Children in the foundation stage benefit from a varied and interesting curriculum which takes into account children's differences and interests. Staff ensure that information is shared with parents about their child's progress through parents evenings and records and this contributes towards their learning whilst at home and at nursery.

Social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The nursery uses effective recruitment procedures and ensures staff are suitably qualified and vetted to work with the children. All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well being is in place and regularly reviewed. Required adult to staff ratios are met and space generally well organised to meet children's needs effectively. Some overcrowding in the 3 to 5 age group room, particularly when new children are settling in, however, has an impact on children's movement around the room and limits their choice of resources.

Leadership and management is satisfactory. Staff are well supported and work well as a team. They are able to share their skills and knowledge gleaned from regular training attended and this has a positive impact on children's enjoyment and development at the nursery. Comprehensive planning systems put forward by the company, whilst regularly monitored and updated do not always allow the staff to use their knowledge of the children attending to provide for their learning and interests. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

The previous care and nursery education inspections recommended that the nursery ensure staff held appropriate qualifications and that assessment was used more appropriately to encourage and support children's learning and development. They

were asked to improve on the selection of books available in the two to three age group room. The nursery was asked to improve behaviour management strategies and to inform parents about children's progress in a more consistent fashion.

Staff now have access to consistent training to improve their knowledge of childcare. Behaviour is well managed and underpinned through secure policy documents which are read and understood by all staff. The selection of books available has been increased and as a result children benefit from being able to choose from a wider selection. Parents are now informed of their child's progress through regular discussions and formal parent evenings which has a positive impact on children's ongoing care and development.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

An investigation visit was carried out on 01/04/2005. Complaints were investigated under Standard 2, Organisation, Standard 3, Care Learning and Play, Standard 6, Safety, Standard 7, Health, Standard 11, Behaviour, Standard 12, Working in Partnership with Parents and Carers and Standard 14, Documentation. Recommendations were set accordingly. The provider remains registered.

## **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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are satisfactory.

### **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 numbers of children do not exceed space requirements taking into consideration furniture and equipment, with particular reference to the upper group room
- make better use of information gained from observing children to inform plans which cater for individual interests and abilities

#### **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):

- provide more challenge for children's mathematical and physical skills by using the information gained by observing what the children know and can already do.

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