

Altofts Private Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY345260
Inspection date	09 August 2007
Inspector	Lindsay Helen Dobson
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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?

Altofts Private Day Nursery is privately owned. It opened in 2007 and operates from two rooms in a purpose-built extension to a residential property. It is situated in Altofts, an established residential area in Wakefield. A maximum of 16 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07.45 to 18.00 for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. Children come from the local and surrounding areas. There are currently 19 children on roll who attend on a full and part time basis. There are five staff including the manager currently employed at the setting. Four staff are qualified to Level 3.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children relax and play in a clean environment where facilities are hygienically maintained, promoting children's health and welfare. Good cleaning routines are fostering children's health, such as spraying the changing mat after use and wiping tables and cleaning floors after meals. Children are developing good personal hygiene habits because adults support them well with

hand washing routines and using tissues, however, currently children share a towel to dry their hands and this puts them at risk of cross-contamination.

Children are well nourished because they have a very good range and balance of healthy meals and snacks. They are offered vegetables with their main meal and enjoy fruit as part of the snack every day. Children are well hydrated because drinking water is readily available in the main playroom and children are served drinks with snacks and meals. Children enjoy an active and healthy lifestyle because they have good opportunities to play outside in the fresh air and sunshine. They confidently use a good range of outdoor physical play equipment. There are sufficient resources, attractively presented, for children to develop skills in riding, climbing and balancing, as well as social skills in sharing, turn taking and playing cooperatively.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play and move around safely in the setting because adults support them well in learning how to stay safe. Children are confident and independent using the step into the playroom from the garden because they are shown and talk about how to take the step slowly and carefully. Children are beginning to understand the importance of walking and not running inside, so as to avoid tripping or bumping into someone. Adults supervise children well and encourage them to sit on chairs properly, as part of their management routines for keeping children safe. Adults take good care of the children's play environment by keeping it tidy and well organised and avoiding tripping hazards. Fire exits are kept clear and children practise drills, so that they know what to do should an emergency evacuation of the premises be necessary.

Children remain safe should child protection or safe guarding concerns arise because adults know what to look out for. They keep appropriate records and follow suitable guidelines for reporting and recording. Appropriate records are kept, such as registers, accident and incident reports, these further promote safety and accountability. Adults make good use of daily risk assessment, ensuring toys, equipment and facilities are safe and suitable for use.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children play happily in the setting, especially in the outside area because there is a good range of resources available for use. Children have plenty of scope for free movement and make choices about what they want to do and what they wish to play with. Children have a good range and variety of play materials in the main playroom, attractively set out in well defined areas, helping them to become confident and independent learners. Children play cooperatively in an interesting and stimulating play environment because it is well organised. Children's art work and creative activities are prominently displayed and they talk about their pictures, extending their learning and helping them to feel good about their achievements.

Care routines are child centred, including arrangements for meals, toileting and washing, promoting children's welfare. Adults talk to children and praise them, helping them to feel supported. Active play is well balanced with periods of relaxation and rest, so that children's all round needs are met. The scheduled and planned programme of activities are well thought out, so that children enjoy constructive learning sessions and free play. Younger children too help themselves to toys and play materials because these are well set out at floor level, so that

they are easily accessible. Children have key workers, supporting individual care, monitoring and planning for their developmental needs.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are welcomed and valued as individuals, so that they settle well and feel secure. The setting is beginning to reflect diversity and positive images, through displays of pictures and photographs, helping children to develop a positive identity and self-image. Children gain experience and are developing an understanding of cultural differences through a range of practical activities, including a French themed big breakfast and a varied multicultural lunchtime menu. Some staff have attended training to enable them to offer care to children with learning difficulties or disabilities and have suitable facilities to ensure full inclusion for all children.

Children are happy and settled in the setting because adults help them feel secure and supported. Children play cooperatively in small groups, sharing and taking turns well, as adults use a positive approach with the children and praise them, encouraging desirable behaviour. Some staff have attended training in management of children's behaviour, so that they are positive and consistent in helping them to behave in acceptable ways.

Positive relationships are being established with parents, promoting children's welfare. Staff share detailed information with parents about their child on a daily basis both verbally and through written diaries, which parents are also encouraged to contribute to. A nursery prospectus is available in draft form at the moment but this provides new parents with a good insight into the provision and the care their children will receive. A complaints procedure is in place and a log is available, however, not all information relating to complaints is currently available to parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Adults are appropriately vetted ensuring their suitability to work with children. There is a good ratio of qualified and experienced adults working directly with the children, so that they are well supervised and supported. Adults are well deployed in the setting, sitting with the children at their chosen activities, talking to them and praising their achievements. Activities are well organised and arranged, so that children help themselves to resources. Children play in an interesting and stimulating environment because pictures and art work displayed support their learning activities. Children can identify resources because these are clearly labelled. Children are settled because care routines are consistent and familiar, so that they know what is happening and what is going to happen next.

Most records, policies and procedures are in place and support the efficient management of the setting. However, permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment has not been obtained from all parents. Registers and signing in and out sheets properly account for the times children are in the care of the provider. Care arrangements are organised to help children develop independence, such as children are shown where to access water and cups, so they can help themselves to drinks. Meals and snacks are well organised too, so that children make choices and can sometimes serve themselves. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range 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):

- further develop children's hygiene routines at hand washing times
- ensure all information relating to complaints is shared with the parents
- ensure permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment is obtained from all parents.

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