

Teddies Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	115322
Inspection date	24 July 2007
Inspector	Anita Rickaby
Setting Address	24 Brampton Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA7 4HD
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Registered person	BUPA Insurance Services Ltd
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 outstanding. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are outstanding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Teddies Nursery Bexleyheath is one of a chain of nurseries owned by BUPA Childcare, a company providing health and care services. There has been a day nursery on the site since 1980 and has been owned by BUPA since 1999. The nursery is located in a large detached house in a residential area of Bexleyheath. There are four units: Teddies Baby Care, Teddies Little Learners and Teddies Little Learners Superstars, which are located on the ground floor, and Teddies Learning Centre located on the first floor. All the children share access to a large, secure outdoor area, part of which is for the exclusive use of the under two year olds. There is a car park to the front of the property.

The nursery is open each weekday from 07:30 to 18:30, with most care offered between 08:00 and 18:00 for 52 weeks of the year, except for Bank Holidays. Full and part-time care is offered for up to 90 children aged from three months to under six years. There are currently 184 children on roll who are drawn from a wide catchment area. There are in total, 63 children who receive nursery education funding, 35 of these are three-year-olds and the remainder are four-year-olds. The curriculum reflects the Foundation Stage early learning goals, Birth to three matters and the nursery has adopted the SMILE active learning scheme as well as offering additional activities

such as French and Spanish. Staff receive support from an advisory teacher from the Bexley Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). The nursery currently supports several children with learning difficulties and or disabilities and several who speak English as an additional language.

Thirty three staff at the nursery work directly with children including some bank staff, of these 29 hold a recognised qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

The standard of hygiene throughout the nursery is very good. Children are very well protected from the spread of infection as staff take every necessary precaution. For example, shoe protectors are available for visitors to the baby room in order to keep the floor clean for crawling babies. Toys and equipment used by babies is exceptionally clean, check lists are in place to ensure toys and equipment are cleaned regularly. Children are learning about good personal hygiene as staff support them in washing their hands and cleaning their teeth.

Children's good health is well promoted, they have daily access to the nursery's large garden which ensures they have plenty of fresh air and exercise. Babies and younger children have their own safe areas of the garden and are well protected from the sun by large canopies.

The nursery is very well prepared to deal with sick or injured children, 20 staff have received recent first aid training and permission is obtained from all parents to seek emergency medical treatment should this be required. There are sound procedures in place for the administration of medication and all required paperwork is completed with regard to accidents and medication, thus ensuring continuity of care for children.

The nursery offers a nutritious child friendly diet with separate menu options for babies and vegetarians. The nursery is careful to meet children's dietary needs at all times. Details of children's allergies and religious requirements are recorded in group rooms and on their placemats at meal times so that the information is always available. Copies of written weekly menus are available for parents to take home and all children's food intake is recorded so that parents are well informed of their child's daily diet.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

The premises are secure, self contained and in a very good state of repair and decoration. The staff take care to ensure the environment is always comfortable for children. There is good heating, lighting and ventilation and portable air conditioners are used to ensure children do not get overheated.

Excellent precautions are taken to keep children safe. Thorough risk assessments are carried out every day by staff in each room. The manager and maintenance man keep an overview of these and carry out their own checks on the communal parts of the building. Children are kept secure and safe as the premises may only be accessed by a door keypad system or door bell which is only answered by regular staff. There are safe procedures for the collection of children

with a password and photo system to help staff identify children's carers. The very wide range of children's toys and equipment is of good quality and is well maintained.

Children's welfare is safeguarded as staff have a sound knowledge of child protection issues. The Teddies company has effective policies in place and staff receive regular child protection training to help them deal with any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children thrive in a rich learning environment where their needs are paramount and staff genuinely enjoy their company. The overall atmosphere in the nursery is busy and exciting with lots of laughter and cuddles. There is a good balance of noisy and quiet activities. For example, in one area children enjoy dancing and playing their own musical instruments, whilst in another area babies snuggle on bean bags with a member of staff sharing a favourite book. Children receive plenty of attention from staff who spend the majority of their time sitting with children working directly with them and supporting their play.

A wide range of activities are planned under the heading of the Birth to three matters framework and the Foundation Stage curriculum. Detailed plans are displayed outside every room along with a multitude of photographs depicting the exciting activities on offer. Even the youngest children in the baby room have opportunities to participate in their own cooking activity.

Nursery Education.

Teaching and learning is outstanding. Staff are imaginative in devising innovative activities to ensure children remain interested and challenged. On the day of inspection children were enjoying their own ice cream bar where they mixed real sorbet and sauce to make their own recipes, children remained engrossed in this for a considerable amount of time. Planning is detailed and ranges from long term plans identifying general areas of learning to short term plans identifying individual stepping stones and reflecting the leader's sound knowledge of the Foundation Stage. Throughout the nursery, assessment and record keeping gives a clear picture of children's development and their future learning needs. In the Foundation Stage staff plan effectively to meet those needs. Children's record folders reflect in detail their progress with photographs, samples of work and written observations. Staff know children well, several staff have served at the nursery for many years and have known children since they were babies.

Children are making excellent progress towards the early learning goals. Very good use is made of accommodation and resources enabling children to move freely from one room to another choosing activities. They are confident and able to take care of their own needs, going to the toilet and finding their own painting aprons without support. Children enjoy books and join in enthusiastically with familiar stories. Their language skills are well developed and they participate eagerly in informal conversation around the lunch table. Children are learning about numbers in everyday situations. For example, they help staff to count children in the line before walking down to the garden. Their knowledge and understanding of the world is well promoted as they learn about their local environment through regular trips out and visitors to the nursery such as the local community police officer. Children are developing excellent physical skills, they manipulate pencils, pens and scissors, some children are able to draw recognisable pictures and write their own names.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children's individual needs are well met. Staff know children well and plan activities according to their needs, age and abilities. Children's differences are acknowledged and valued. They are helped to learn about their community and develop positive attitudes to others through celebrating festivals such as Diwali and having access to appropriate toys, equipment and books.

The nurseries provision for children with learning difficulties and or disabilities is exceptional. Staff have formed good relationships with the local authority special needs co-ordinator and also seek advice and support from other organisations to help them meet children's needs. Specialist equipment has been provided to assist children in joining in everyday activities and a well organised record keeping system underpins their work.

Children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered appropriately. Children are very well behaved. They learn a sense of responsibility as staff give them jobs such as collecting cups after lunch or holding the gate open as children go downstairs to the garden. Children receive lots of praise and rewards, stickers and awards such as the clean plate award help children to learn good behaviour.

The partnership with parents is outstanding. In the Foundation Stage parents receive regular and detailed information about the activities on offer via interesting displays in the corridor. Across the nursery parents are able to request to see children's records at any time. Regular parents evenings are held to give parents a formal opportunity to review their child's records and talk with staff.

Excellent relationships between parents and staff help to contribute to the happy atmosphere in the nursery and ensures continuity between home and nursery. The nursery makes parents very welcome. Staff and the manager are available to talk with parents on a daily basis. There are a multitude of photographs around the nursery so that parents can see what happens every day. Detailed planning is available outside every room and comprehensive information about the nursery and its policies and procedures are displayed on notice boards throughout the building. There is a comfortable parents area where they can sit at any time. A parents' breakfast bar is set up so that parents can eat breakfast with their children or grab something on the way to work. Parents participate actively in nursery life, they take part in sports days, teddy bears picnics and other celebrations. There is a parents representatives group who meet regularly with the manager and discuss ideas or concerns. The manager then draws up plans to address these.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

Leadership and management of the nursery is outstanding. In the Foundation Stage the head of unit has a good knowledge of the curriculum and early learning goals, she supports staff in planning to meet children's individual learning needs. There is a good overview of provision which is constantly evaluated and improved.

The nursery meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. The provision is supported by a comprehensive operational plan which covers all aspects of nursery life. Paperwork is very well organised and all required documentation is kept to hand supporting the very good care of children.

Staff are well deployed across the nursery ensuring that children receive constant supervision and support. The high ratio of qualified staff contributes to the quality of the provision. Staff are well supported by the manager who holds regular appraisal meetings and draws up development plans to address staff learning needs.

A robust vetting procedure ensures children are always cared for by suitable adults.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the nursery was asked to develop planning for children's large motor development and for mathematical learning to provide sufficient challenge for the older or more able children. These aspects are now fully included in planning and the more able children are sufficiently challenged. The nursery was also asked to review the organisation of resources to enable children to select toys and equipment for themselves particularly for art and craft work. Toys, resources, art and craft materials are now stored on low shelves so that children can easily access them. A recommendation was also raised to develop staff knowledge of how to support the broad range of activities on offer each day in addition to supporting the planned activities. Staff have attended appropriate training, for example a craft workshop, and are able to work with children and support their development throughout the nursery.

In addition it was recommended that the nursery ensure that hygiene practices minimise the risk of cross infection: in this instance whilst children clean their teeth and whilst sleeping. Hygiene is outstanding thorough out the nursery. Children's toothbrushes are now stored in their own individual containers and there is adequate space between children at sleep time. The nursery was also asked to provide suitable seating facilities to ensure staff can comfortably hold and feed babies appropriately. Adult sized chairs are now provided in the baby room so that staff can feed babies in comfort.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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.

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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of nursery education are outstanding.

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