

Hunnypot Corner

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY274438
Inspection date	19 September 2007
Inspector	Caroline Preston
Setting Address	140 Squirrels Heath Road, Romford, Essex, RM3 0LU
Telephone number	01708 376586
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Registered person	Karen Angela Johnson
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?

Hunnypot Corner Nursery is a privately owned nursery. It opened in January 2004 and operates from four rooms in a purpose-built building. It is situated in a residential area of Harold Wood in the London borough of Havering. A maximum of 26 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:00 to 18:00 and is open all year round apart from bank holidays. Children attend for a variety of sessions. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. There are currently 43 children aged from three months to under five years on roll. Of these 12 children receive funding for nursery education. The nursery employs 12 members of staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Consent for emergency medical treatment has not been sought from parents, therefore, there is no procedure in place to follow should a major accident occur and medical staff need to care

for children before parents arrive. Children learn about hygiene because they are encouraged to wash their hands before and after eating and after using the toilet and staff follow good hygiene procedures themselves. They wipe down tables regularly, wash their own hands before handling food, ensure the children's bathroom is clean at all times and use appropriate disposable gloves and aprons when changing nappies.

Children have many opportunities to develop their large physical skills because they have access to a well resourced garden. Play resources include; climbing frame, cars, bikes, play house and balls. Children dance to music, stretching, and moving around freely, therefore children exercise which supports their wellbeing. Children learn about healthy foods through activities such as visits to the local shops to buy food. They take photographs of the food and display them around the nursery which reinforces their learning. Children develop independence at snack time because they pour their own drinks, including milkshake and water. They enjoy eating raisins and oatcakes because staff support them to butter the oatcakes themselves. Small babies enjoy eating sausages, new potatoes and beans, followed by ice-cream and jelly whilst listening to nursery rhymes at lunchtime. Therefore meal times are social and fun and children are offered healthy foods to support their health.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are well protected as the nursery follow good procedures that ensure children's safety for example CCTV all around the setting shows any unwanted visitors and who is at the front door. Fire safety equipment is checked regularly therefore any possible fires would be put out, regular fire drills teach children how to keep safe, and safety gates stop children climbing stairs unsupervised. Children learn about safety through activities that teach them about road safety, they watch educational videos about road safety, read books and discuss the role of the lollipop lady.

Children have easy access to a good range of play resources that are age and stage appropriate for example, pre-school children have designated areas with different types of resources. Including; construction and creative, messy and writing activities. Children can also move between two playrooms, choosing their play and having space to move freely. Small babies have many toys to learn from including; programmable toys, books, musical instruments, building blocks, small play kitchen, treasure basket and soft toys which are all on the carpet for them to choose from. The environment is well maintained and child friendly because staff display children's work and photographs, all areas of the nursery are bright and clean, staff are friendly and welcoming. Staff are aware of all child protection procedures, they know the different types and signs and symptoms and to record any concerns and report to the manager, therefore, if abuse was suspected, children would be kept safe.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have many opportunities to have fun and learn through play, small babies stand up and move freely across the floor, they sit on the carpet showing great curiosity as they look at the different objects in the treasure basket. They listen to music tapes, moving their bodies to the music and smiling at staff who show affection and encourage their play. They look at themselves in the large low-level safe mirror smiling and laughing, showing enjoyment and

amusement. Children sit on the laps of staff looking through books and babbling, this shows strong relationships have been built and children feel safe and secure.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Children are effectively supported by staff who show a good understanding of the Foundation Stage curriculum. They use appropriate observations and planning systems to cover all areas of the curriculum. They use effective questioning techniques to challenge children's learning abilities and get the most out of them, through clear appropriate language.

Children use their imaginations as they act out being doctors, dressing up in doctors' coats and using play tools such as thermometers and bandages. They build towers together in small groups, each taking turns to add another brick; showing good team work and good social development. Children develop information and technology skills through using the video camera and using the computer set up in the playrooms. They create by making different collages and paintings which are displayed around the rooms. They listen to music tapes and sing songs at circle time, they also develop confidence speaking out and expressing their thoughts and ideas during circle time. They develop mathematical skills by discussing what the date is and what the date was yesterday and predicting what the date would be tomorrow, they count to 20 using their fingers as counters. They develop early writing and reading skills, by tracing around their names and looking through books, and are able to recognise their name cards.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's social, moral, spiritual, and cultural development is fostered. They learn about other cultures through play resources such as dressing up clothes, books, puzzles and dolls and celebrate various festivals. Children have tranquil moments listening to music tapes, they visit the local shops to buy food, so learn about the local environment and taste different foods from around the world at lunch time. Children behave well and learn rules such as; we are kind to our friends, we use our quiet voices, we listen to grown ups, we help to tidy up, we walk in nursery, all staff carry colour co-ordinated small cards, that reinforce these rules. Staff show respect, and therefore children learn about right and wrong, children play well together and during meal times chat and laugh together, they take part in circle time and discuss the date and weather.

Children with learning difficulties are supported well. Staff work closely with outside agencies such as speech therapists and follow any care plans that have been put into place to support children. Parents are given well written informative information about the policies and procedures the nursery follows; therefore parents are aware of how the nursery is run.

The partnership with parents who receive nursery education is good. Parents are well informed about the Foundation Stage curriculum and how their child is progressing toward the early learning goals. Staff hold regular meetings with parents and they receive reports every six months. Parents are invited to be part of their child's learning through topics, which are listed in the quarterly newsletters.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Good organisation in all areas of the provision helps to provide children with a secure and positive environment. All staff are suitably qualified and safe to care for children because they have all had a range of appropriate checks including a police check. Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities, therefore children's needs are met and staff show confidence when caring for the children. The environment is child centred and full of good play resources that reinforce children's learning experiences. Children are supervised well and staff are supported by the management team, through staff meetings and regular appraisals. Daily routines promote children's learning and care for example focused activities which look at a child's next steps in learning, meal times and rest times support children's daily care and well being.

Leadership and management of the nursery education are good, however the manager has not fully updated her knowledge of the Foundation Stage curriculum, therefore this limits her ability to assess how well the curriculum is being implemented. The owner of the nursery monitors the curriculum through observing staff daily and developing their skills through regular appraisals and giving them opportunities for further training. Staff are knowledgeable about the curriculum and use regular observations and assessments effectively to evaluate how children are progressing toward the early learning goals. The setting works closely with the advisory teacher to develop new systems for implementing all the areas and recording children's achievements.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was asked to ensure books promoting diversity were available to children. There are many books across all the playrooms promoting equality; therefore these improvements support children's understanding of diversity.

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

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

- obtain written permission from parents for emergency medical treatment

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):

- improve the manager's understanding of the Foundation Stage curriculum.

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