

Bramleys Day Nursery and Nursery School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY224700
Inspection date	06 March 2008
Inspector	Tracy Bartholomew
Setting Address	Masons Court, Ardington, Wantage, Oxfordshire, OX12 8TP
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Registered person	Bramleys Nurseries
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?

Bramleys Day Nursery and Nursery School was established in 1990 and is part of the Bramleys Nursery Group. It operates from seven rooms in a purpose built building in the village of Ardington.

There are currently 120 children on roll. This includes 32 funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs. There are three children currently attending who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 08:00 until 18:00.

There are currently four part time and 16 full time staff working with the children. Of these, nine staff hold suitable early years qualifications and 11 are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the local authority early years department.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are learning to have a positive approach to being healthy whilst at the setting. They enjoy daily healthy snack and meals, which contributes to their health. Older children at lunch time can confidently serve their own vegetables and pour their own drink, which promotes their independence. However the organisation for meal times with in these rooms, results in most children eating a tepid meal. Staff are generally good role models to the children, as they sit with them to discuss what is being eaten. They have a good understanding of who has an allergy and an effective system is in place to ensure all dietary needs are well catered for.

Children are independent in their personal care. They go to the toilet unaided, wash their hands, and are conscious of their own personal hygiene. A total of seven staff members hold valid first aid certificates and all staff are clear about the procedures to follow when recording accidents and administration of medication. This ensures children's health is fully protected. Most staff maintain suitable levels of hygiene within setting, however not all staff wash their prior to serving the children's meals, which poses a risk to the children's health. Parents and carers are fully aware of the policies and procedures as these are available for them on the table top display, which include a procedure to be followed for the care of children who are ill or have infections. In addition, parents and visitors to the nursery can further maintain the health of all by through the use of the anti bacterial hand gel available in the entrance hall, which is to be used to prevent any member of the public bringing germs and bacteria into the setting. This ensures children are protected from cross-infection and helps them to remain healthy

Suitable use is made of the outside area which ensures children have regular opportunities to play in fresh air and develop their muscle skills. Staff allow them to confidently and competently ride and steer bikes, dig in the mud and practise their co-ordination and balance skills as they explore the climbing equipment.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The nursery operates from a purpose built building, which is suitably clean and well maintained. Children are cared for in a light and suitably ventilated rooms. Children have a wide selection of toys and resources available which enables them to make choices, play and develop appropriately. The staff are creative in the way in which they display toys and use materials such as clothes and blocks to set the scene for an animal adventure. These skills are used throughout the setting to engage and promote the children's play, with staff remaining alert about the children's safety throughout. All equipment, furnishings, and toys are appropriate for their purpose and are effective in providing a stimulating environment throughout the setting. The nursery promotes the children's self esteem well, by valuing and fully displaying their work throughout the setting, which in turn makes for a bright environment.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. The staff are vigilant about the children's safety. They use daily written risk assessments which are relevant to the setting, these thoroughly demonstrate that the setting identifies risks and takes effective action to minimise these, whilst safeguarding the children.

Children's welfare is effectively safeguarded, through the knowledge and understanding the staff have in relation to their role within child protection. Most staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities and have undertaken appropriate training. They clearly understand the signs and symptoms of child abuse, and understand their responsibility of reporting this procedure if concerned. The setting has a comprehensive child protection statement, which meets the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, settled and relaxed at the nursery, they experience a wide range of challenging opportunities throughout the day, which in turn ensures that their development is being sufficiently challenged. Children respond consistently well to the close attention of the staff, who encourage their participation in all activities. Staff are coherent in children's play, and engage with them whilst playing games such as 'peek-a-boo' in the mirror. The staff are familiar with the Birth to three matters framework and effectively incorporate this into their work with children under three years. They ensure the younger ones enjoy their day and participate fully in all aspects of the day.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff have a thorough understanding of how to plan a curriculum that supports children's progress towards the early learning goals. The plans are detailed and clearly reflect all of the Foundation Stage. However, documentation does not clearly show how observations and evaluations are used to plan for each child's next stage of learning. The staff are enthusiastic about the activities that they offer, which has a positive effect on the children's learning. The children are sociable and play well together and are vastly becoming independent learners. They are learning about their own community through use of planned activities, such as people who help us, and enjoy visits from parents who talk about their roles, for example as being a nurse.

Children are developing a love of stories and imaginative play. They have a good amount of resources to support this aspect of their development through the use of puppets, musical instruments and role play. Children enjoy using paint and make good attempts to draw pictures of animals, vehicles and musical instruments. The children are developing a good awareness of letter shapes and sounds. They frequently take part in games that have a focus on language skills. Many children write their own names and attempt other words. The children demonstrate a good awareness of mathematics. They experience a broad range of practical play situations that help their understanding of size and shape, through use of construction and basket ball play.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are valued and receive a warm-hearted welcome in this setting. Staff are skilful at meeting the children's individual needs and dedicate their time to support these. The staff welcome all children personally on arrival, they are sensitive to their individual characters and clearly know each child well. Children with special needs receive good support since staff work closely with parents and outside professionals. Staff maintain records carefully and prepare individual educational plans, speaking positively about the achievements of each child. Children behave well in the nursery. They play co-operatively and are happy to complete tasks like art

work of musical instruments, for the display boards together. Children respect each others' wishes, waiting until a friend finishes a construction before using the bricks themselves. Children respond well to the good role models the staff provide and gentle reminders reinforce effective manners throughout. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the children is fostered.

The partnership with parents and carers of children who receive funding for nursery education is good. Parents have continued opportunities to discuss their children's educational progress, and meetings are available. Parents are given clear information of their children's level of attainment and progress in relation to their individual progress. Regular newsletters and clear written information about the aims and objectives keep parents up to date with all occurrences within the setting. This provides an effective partnership with parents. Feedback from the parents indicates they are very happy with the setting. Comments include that staff are caring, dedicated and offer a first class service to the children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care and learning is very well maintained by the high-quality organisation and leadership and management of the nursery. Children thrive whilst at the setting due to the commitment and good ratios of staff to children. This ensures that they receive a superior level of support and consideration whilst at the setting. All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well being is in place. The staff work to high standards and are secure in their knowledge and understanding of the curriculum provided. This includes the Foundation Stage guidance and Birth to three matters framework.

Leadership and management is good. There is a clear, shared vision for the nursery's future. Staff work well together, communicating effectively and providing good support to the children. The management and the staff are confident in their knowledge of the Foundation Stage. The quality of teaching throughout the setting motivates the children to learn and children are making good progress throughout their development. As a result, the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last care inspection the setting where asked to improve the complaints and behaviour policy, monitor the temperatures in the baby sleep rooms, ensure that the first aid box and its contents comply with Health and Safety and ensure the storage in the disabled toilet does not make it unsuitable for its intended use. The setting, has complied with most of these recommendations, by updating the policies and procedures of the setting to safeguard the children. The disabled toilet, continues to be an area of improvement following this inspection.

At the last education inspection, the setting where asked to improve activities to develop the children's understanding of mathematics, improve staff's knowledge of managing children's behaviour and develop the organisation of children during changes of the routine. The setting has complied with these recommendations, which as a result ensures that children's educational needs are well met.

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):

- ensure that all staff follow positive steps to prevent the spread of infection, especially in relation to food handling
- Ensure the storage in the disabled toilet does not make it unsuitable for its intended use.

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):

- demonstrate how observations and evaluations are used to plan for each child's next stage of learning

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