

# The Belfry Hotel Creche

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY362502
<b>Inspection date</b>	09 April 2008
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<b>Registered person</b>	Bouverie No. 1 Ltd
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Crèche

## 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](http://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?

The Belfry Hotel Crèche was registered in 2007. It operates from two rooms situated within the Belfry Hotel Leisure Club, part of the Belfry Hotel complex, in the village of Wishaw on the outskirts of Sutton Coldfield. The crèche serves hotel guests and members of the leisure club. Children generally attend for short sessions whilst their parents are attending the leisure club or are guests of the hotel. The crèche is open from Monday to Saturday all year round, except for Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Sessions are from 09:00 until 14:00 each day.

The setting is registered to care for 11 children under eight years at any one time. There are currently 118 children on roll, aged from eight weeks to seven years, who attend for a variety of sessions. The crèche supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

There are three members of staff who work with the children. Of these, two hold relevant qualifications to level 3; one holds a level 2 qualification and is presently working towards level 3.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are actively learning about good hygiene through the setting's well-implemented routines, for example, hand washing after toileting and before cookery activities. Their skills of independence and self-reliance are appropriately fostered as most personal hygiene equipment is readily available and easily accessible.

Children are given frequent opportunities to exercise and full use is made of the soft-play room, where they are able to access an extensive range of equipment to develop and practise a wide range of physical skills.

The setting's well-organised policies and records generally promote the children's health. However, their welfare is not fully safeguarded as parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment has not yet been obtained.

The setting does not offer meals or snacks, however, children's home-prepared food, or food purchased by parents from the leisure centre cafeteria, is appropriately stored and hygienically served. Children are learning about healthy eating through discussion and topic work. Drinks are freely available.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The setting is exciting and stimulating as the décor is bright and attractive and examples of the children's creative work are widely displayed, making the environment warm and welcoming for all.

The children enjoy independent access to a good range of toys and equipment. These are kept in a very clean and safe condition and effectively fosters all areas of their development. The large soft-play room is a particular favourite with the children and offers a myriad of opportunities to foster their sensory and imaginative play.

The staff are aware of possible risks to children's safety and, although the written risk assessment is not always regularly maintained, a visual risk assessment is implemented daily. The children are actively learning how to keep themselves safe, for example, by participating in regular fire evacuations. The staff provide opportunities to reinforce aspects of personal safety during topic work and cookery activities.

Children's protection from abuse and neglect is promoted through the staff's good knowledge of signs and symptoms and of reporting procedures.

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

The provision is good.

Children are able to engage in a stimulating and well-balanced range of activities and these are planned in advance to help them make progress in all areas of development. The staff have embraced the 'Birth to three matters' framework and actively support the children in their decisions and choices, helping them to become autonomous and competent learners.

Children are learning to negotiate and work together. For example, a small group worked cooperatively together to produce a painting for the wall. They are able to work independently and are developing skills of self-reliance as they freely access resources and activities. Their sense of responsibility is fostered through small tasks and daily routines, for example, helping to tidy away toys. They are offered frequent opportunities to express and communicate their ideas and feelings through a number of imaginative activities, including song, dance and role play.

Children's language and thinking skills are enthusiastically promoted through general conversation and through the frequent questions asked of them by the staff. Their confidence and self-esteem are enhanced as the staff listen carefully to their responses. Social skills are developed as they are encouraged to take turns in speaking and listening.

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

The provision is good.

The staff have a strong commitment to equality of opportunity and they recognise children as individuals, and as a result the children benefit from having their differing needs met. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and staff have a proactive and sensitive approach to their care. Children are able to access a generally good range of resources to raise their awareness of diversity, although resources to promote understanding of disability are under-represented and are presently being developed. Cultural festivals are frequently acknowledged through role play and creative and cookery activities.

The children behave well. Staff have appropriate expectations of the children and strategies to promote positive behaviour are consistent and positive. Younger children respond well to gentle reminders to care for their environment, crèche resources and each other. Older children are actively encouraged to resolve their differences through discussion, developing their skills of negotiation and compromise.

Children benefit from continuity of care. This has developed through the relationship that staff strive to maintain with parents and carers, who are very warmly welcomed into the setting and are actively encouraged to be involved in their children's learning.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's welfare is promoted through the staff's strong organisational skills and most records and policies are appropriately maintained and regularly reviewed. However, the children's welfare is not fully safeguarded as staff arrival and departure times for the crèche itself are not accurately recorded.

The children are able to explore and investigate as a result of the well-organised use of space, which has been planned to enable them to participate in a variety of stimulating activities. The effective and consistent adult support fosters their sense of security.

The provision meets the needs of the range of 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):

- request written parental permission, at the time of placement, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment in the future
- ensure that the system of registering staff attendance shows actual hours of attendance in the creche.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)