

Victory Nursery (Angell Town)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY303592
Inspection date	15 July 2008
Inspector	Janet Sharon Williams
Setting Address	St John's Church Hall, Angell Road, London, SW9 7PF
Telephone number	0207 274 6263
E-mail	cvgicare@aol.com
Registered person	Christian Victory Group
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 satisfactory. 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?

Victory Nursery (Angell Town) is one of two nurseries under the same management. It opened in 2005 and operates from a purpose built premises. The nursery serves the local area. A maximum of 47 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:30 to 18:00. All the children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor area.

There are currently 47 children aged three months to five years on roll. Of these, four children receive funding for early education.

The nursery receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

More than 50% of the staff team hold appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean environment where some good hygiene practices are put into place. For example, children wash their hands before meals, and staff have good routines in place for nappy changing, such as, they wear clean gloves and an apron for each nappy change. However, the storage of children's sleeping bags does not promote good hygiene or avoid cross infection. Furthermore they are not stored individually. Effective procedures are in place to promote children's health and well being, for example, no medication is administered without prior permission from parents and a clear record is maintained of details and parents are asked to sign the records on collection of their child. Records for accidents are also well maintained.

Children are provided with healthy nutritious meals. Their individual dietary needs and requirements are considered carefully, for example, a record is kept on their registration record form and is also listed in the kitchen noting their likes and dislikes, and allergies. Children have access to fresh drinking water at all times and they can independently help themselves. Consideration is also given to younger children, for example, they are offered a drink at regular intervals.

Children enjoy regular physical activities that help keep them in good health. They show their awareness of the importance of why they need to exercise to keep them fit and strong.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's safety is maintained most of the time; for example, procedures are followed for secure arrangements to monitor the safe arrival and departure of children, no person can enter the premises without ringing the door bell, all parents have to sign their child in and out and staff frequently check that children's arrival and departure times are recorded. The premises is also risk assessed to ensure all areas accessible to the children are safe and secure. However, a few sockets that are not in use, are not covered.

The environment is carefully planned and organised to provide opportunities for older children to learn. Space available is planned to allow children to rest and play freely and comfortably. However, resources readily available for younger children, such as, table top toys and equipment are limited. For example, few large and small construction toys, puzzles, paints and play dough with pastry cutters are displayed.

Children are safeguarded and protected through staff's sound understanding of what to do if they are concerned about a child. However, a few staff indicate that they are not aware of the nursery's policies relating to safeguarding and protecting children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and talkative with each other and some of the staff, initiate social groups and co-operate skilfully with each other. They have good relationships and play freely and independently with the activities and resources available. Children make use of the role play area, play mums and dads, complete puzzles and enjoy playing outside. Some staff interact

with children, talking and listening, and demonstrate a very good understanding of each child's needs. However, a few staff do not effectively work together with the children, such as, communicating with the children or challenging them to make them think. Routines and activities for all children allow for older and younger children to interact indoors and outdoors. Children are able to develop and learn through play because staff have a satisfactory structure and organised activity plan which includes the Foundation Stage and the Birth to Three Matters framework.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good because staff have a sound understanding of the early learning goals and stepping stones. Effective curriculum plans are used to support children's progress in all areas of learning. Staff have a comprehensive system in place to ensure children progress towards the Foundation Stage of learning. Written profiles of children's progress are kept up to date to enable staff to know at all times what level of development each child is at. Children are very independent. They see to their personal needs, such as, dressing and undressing, visiting the toilet and washing hands, deciding when to have their drink and helping serving at snack and lunchtime. At story time staff use good questioning techniques to stimulate thought and challenge children. This contributes to children's listening skills. Children's spoken language is developing well. They are able to link sounds and letters, such as, 'o' for orange and 's' for snake, and recognise each other's name.

Children learn how to use numbers in everyday situations, know numbers that are important to them and are continuously counting. For example, staff frequently head count and children are encouraged to join in. They are able to show numbers at random using their fingers. Children enjoy a satisfactory range of practical activities and use free play to promote an understanding of shape, numbers and measurements. For example, they play in the sand using large and small buckets to make sand castle. This also enables them to build a sense of natural resources. Children's knowledge and understanding of the world is good. They are confident in using information technology and have access to a wide range of computer programmes. They also have access to calculators, tape recorders and telephones during free play. Children use their imagination and express their ideas in a variety of ways. They act out being a doctor and patient very well. Children enjoy singing and join in enthusiastically. They are able to experience drawing and painting using coloured paint and many of them know their colours; when requested to identify items on the table to what they are wearing, they are able to match them, for example, the blue construction brick to their dress and shoes. Children move confidently and in a variety of ways. They can manoeuvre bicycles, competently go up and down the ladder on the slide and participate in throwing and catching allowing them to develop co-ordination and an understanding of space.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are from a wide diverse group. Although this is a Christian practice nursery, children have many opportunities to relate well to others and to develop awareness of many other different cultures through topics on festivals/cultural events, such as, Black History Month, Chinese New Year and Diwali. Individual language signs acknowledge children and families' cultural identity, for example, pictures and posters display the various languages in hello. There is a range of resources and play materials, such as, dressing up clothes, puzzles, books and dolls.

Most children are well behaved, listen well to adults and to each other and are keen to discuss their activities. Children receive regular praise and encouragement enabling them to feel good about themselves and grow in confidence. For example, staff are consistently using positive phrases, such as, well done. Children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered.

Children with learning difficulties and disabilities are well supported and fully integrated within the nursery setting. Partnership with parents and outside agencies is strong, enabling children's individual needs to be met.

Children benefit from the effective positive partnership staff have with parents. Staff are available for parents to discuss the needs of their children. Written systems have been established to keep parents and carers informed about their children each day. For example, parents of babies and younger children receive a diary sheet of what children have had to eat, children's sleeping patterns and nappy changing throughout the day.

Partnership with parents of children receiving nursery education funding is good. A profile is completed prior to children's admission which is linked to the stepping stones and show children's development in all areas relevant to the child's starting point. All of which contributes to children's progress towards the early learning goals.

Parents are well informed; they receive good information about their child's teaching and learning. This also enables children to benefit through staff building on what children already know. Parents completing questionnaires indicate how they are very happy with the information they receive from staff. Parents are encouraged to be involved in many events, for example, helping out with visits to places of interest and story time with the children. However, parents do not have access to the activity plan that includes the Foundation Stage of learning.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are relaxed, happy and occupied. Their day allows them to participate in a satisfactory range of activities that stimulate their learning and development. Older children can choose from play materials that are accessible from low level drawers. However, resources displayed throughout the day are limited for younger children.

Staff have a sound understanding of children's interests to ensure that children's individual needs are met. Good routines are in place to provide a stable environment for all children attending, allowing for active and quiet play, and time outdoors. However, the nursery is providing care for children from five years to under eight years. This is a breach of their registration.

Staff work well as a team. They are given opportunities to attend various training courses, for example, the Early Years Foundation Stage and safeguarding and protecting children. All documentation required and policies and procedures ensure the nursery is run smoothly and effectively. This contributes to the welfare of the children.

Leadership and management is good. Staff are knowledgeable about the Foundation Stage of learning and use observation and assessments effectively to evaluate how children are progressing towards the early learning goal. The manager has a good knowledge of current child care practices to support the care and learning of children.

The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last Children's Act inspection the provider was asked to ensure staff are effectively deployed to support the children at all times and update complaint record and behaviour policy in line with regulations. There are clear guidelines for dealing with complaints. Although staff: children ratio is good, children are not effectively supported at all times.

The Nursery Education inspection recommended they introduce a rigorous system to monitor and evaluate the quality of teaching so that areas for improvement identified can be quickly addressed. This has been satisfactorily addressed to ensure that children progress in all areas of learning.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there has been one complaint made to Ofsted that required the provider to take action to meet the National Standards. The complaint related to National Standard 6. Concerns were raised in relation to the provider not ensuring accidents to children are accurately recorded and countersigned by parents. As a result the provider ensured that a system was devised to ensure that records of accidents are satisfactorily maintained and kept up to date.

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 provider has kept a record of all complaints made to Ofsted by parents.

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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):

- develop and implement systems to promote the good health of children and take positive steps to prevent the spread of infection
- ensure staff are aware of the nursery's policy on child protection
- provide children with a wider range of readily available toys and equipment
- ensure all staff interact with children effectively
- ensure registration requirements are met at all times

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):

- ensure parents have access to the activity plan that relates to the early learning goals

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