

# Once Upon A Time Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY350288
<b>Inspection date</b>	28 May 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Nigel Lindsay Smith
<b>Setting Address</b>	223 Passage road, Brentry, Bristol, BS10 7DL
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<b>Registered person</b>	Once Upon A Time Day Nursery
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Integrated
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Once Upon A Time Day Nursery is one of two privately owned nurseries. It opened in 2007 and operates from a converted house in the Brentry area of north Bristol, close to links to the M4/M5 motorway interchange. A maximum of 35 children may attend the setting at any one time. The setting opens five days a week all year round from 08.00 to 18.00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 26 children, aged from nine months to four years, on roll. Of these, eight children receive funding for early education. The setting serves the local and wider areas. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The setting employs 10 members of staff. Of these, five have appropriate early years qualifications and two are currently working towards a recognised qualification.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn about the importance of keeping healthy. They wash their hands regularly with antibacterial soap and use paper towels. Staff minimise the risk of cross-infection as they follow good hygiene practices. These include wearing disposable gloves when changing nappies, and regularly cleaning toys and equipment. A clear agreement with parents ensures that children do not attend when they are sick so that illnesses are not spread unnecessarily. Distress to children following an accident is minimised as sufficient staff have current first aid training. Staff clearly record accidents and the sharing of this record with parents enables them to watch for any further symptoms which may develop. Parents are not asked to give permission for emergency medical treatment. Staff record when they have administered medicine and parents sign the entry so that they are aware of how many doses their child receives at nursery, although the format used lacks sufficient clarity.

Children are developing a good understanding of the benefits of a healthy diet. Children benefit from healthy and well balanced meals cooked on the premises. They enjoy sociable mealtimes, with staff appropriately supporting children of all ages. Staff respect children's dietary needs and take note of any food allergies, ensuring that children do not have food which is not suitable for them. Children do not become dehydrated as staff ensure that they offer regular drinks.

Children rest according to their needs. Their individual routines are respected and they sleep in a comfortable, quiet room, with staff checking them regularly. Children enjoy a well-planned range of physical activities which contribute to their good health. They have regular access to fresh air as good use is made of the garden. Children develop their large muscle skills as they pedal and steer trikes and use skittles.

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

The provision is good.

Children play in premises which are well resourced, bright and comfortable, with stimulating images. The rooms facilitate a variety of activities for all age groups. There is a wide range of good quality, well maintained equipment to meet the needs of all the children. The outside area is arranged to allow older children to move freely and safely in and out of the adjacent playroom.

A thorough risk assessment helps staff ensure that the premises, toys and equipment are safe. Monthly unannounced fire drills take place which helps staff know what to do in an emergency. Fire detection equipment is tested regularly. The premises are secure and visitors are monitored.

Children are well safeguarded if there are child protection concerns as there are thorough arrangements in place to make a referral to the appropriate agency. Staff have good knowledge of their role and receive relevant training. There are appropriate procedures in the event of an allegation being made against an adult in the setting.

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

The provision is good.

Babies are well-supported by staff, who encourage them as they choose from toys set out at their level. Toddlers enjoy building a tower and one identifies the colour yellow, saying 'It's like the sun'. They chalk and complete puzzles, use their imagination in the home corner and skip and thread. They enjoy music, story and dance sessions led by a visiting specialist. Staff use their thorough knowledge of the children and written observations to plan activities which the children enjoy.

Nursery education.

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Children are engaged in a range of stimulating activities and have access to good resources which support their learning across the six areas of the Foundation Stage. They make good progress as staff plan activities that promote their learning. They enjoy a balanced mixture of adult-led and small group activities.

Children have good opportunities to develop their social skills and their awareness of their identity. They take part in an 'our houses' activity; a child in the home corner uses an ironing board and tells the others 'I'm mummy'. They learn to share fairly and take turns whilst whisking and mixing the ingredients for making cakes.

Children's language skills are supported well by staff, who ask them open questions and encourage them to talk. They are encouraged to talk to others at circle time while holding the teddy. They learn to develop a wide range of communication skills through enjoyable activities such as writing in sand and flour and making up a story that they then role play. They measure their height and compare this with previous records. They match different sized bears, and match shapes with objects that they find in the nursery. They enjoy practising their knowledge of numbers using soft toys brought from their homes. They did not, however, have the opportunity to practise weighing and measuring in the cake-making activity.

Children investigate light and shadows through using torches, and they become familiar with the computer. They explore nature through searching for bugs and looking at snails through a magnifying glass. They make rain catchers to measure how much has fallen. Children develop their creativity through a variety of activities, such as making finger puppets, moving like animals, and playing musical instruments.

Staff undertake written observations on the children's achievements and skilfully use these in their planning for the children's next stage of learning. Children's individual needs are identified and included in planning. Planning comprehensively covers the six areas of learning and staff effectively evaluate the activities.

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

The provision is good.

Children gain awareness of different cultures through using equipment such as multicultural books and dressing up clothes. There are some visual aids to help in working with children for whom English is an additional language. There are appropriate arrangements in place to work with children who have learning difficulties or disabilities, and to ensure that they are included in all the activities.

Children learn good behaviour through the skills of the staff, who are kind and friendly. Children respond well to clear requests from the staff, for example, when staff ask them not to all talk at once. Staff have appropriate strategies to manage more challenging behaviour, such as telling children that they have made a 'bad choice' or giving them time and space to calm down.

Children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered.

The partnership with parents is good. Flexible arrangements help children to settle into the nursery. There is a comprehensive information pack available for parents. They are encouraged to discuss their children's progress with the key worker. There are formal and informal arrangements to ensure that parents have regular feedback about their children's progress. Monthly newsletters update parents with any relevant information. During the inspection, parents gave positive feedback about the nursery. They receive information about their children's learning so that they can follow this up at home, and comment on the children being encouraged to care for each other. There are thorough procedures in place to manage, record and share any complaints with parents.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Robust recruitment arrangements ensure that staff are appropriately checked and qualified, and the induction process ensures that they are aware of their responsibilities. Staff appraisals include self evaluation so that their ongoing development is promoted. The setting's support for staff to attend additional training events builds on their existing knowledge and skills. Records are thorough, policies are comprehensive and all are stored confidentially.

Leadership and management are good. The manager has a clear vision for the nursery. The staff and management have regular meetings. They are highly committed to working constructively with the children.

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

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable: this is the first inspection since registration.

### **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 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 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 written permission is requested at the time of placement to seek emergency medical advice or treatment in the future
- develop the arrangements for administering medication to clarify parents' signatures.

### **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):

- further develop opportunities for children to weigh and measure in activities
- further develop labelling of equipment for the children

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)