

Little Cherubs

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	120100
Inspection date	02/10/2008
Inspector	Anne Nicholson

Setting address	60 Station Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6DX
------------------------	---

Telephone number	01932 348348
-------------------------	--------------

Email	littlecherubs@nsworld.com
--------------	---------------------------

Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises
------------------------	------------------------------------

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Description of the setting

Little Cherubs Day Nursery opened in 2000. It is a privately owned provision. The nursery operates from a converted chapel building in a residential area of West Byfleet in Surrey. There are four room bases, one of which is on the first floor and accessible by stairs only. There is a very small enclosed outside play area and children are taken to the local park, the canal to feed the ducks and to the local library for story time. Children attending the setting come from the local area.

The nursery is open each day between 07:00 and 18:00 for 51 weeks of the year and children may attend full or part days. It is registered on the Early Years Register to care for a maximum of 28 children at any one time and there are currently 27 children from eight months to four years on roll. This includes one child who is in receipt of nursery education funding. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

There are eight members of staff who work at the nursery. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications and two are currently on relevant qualification training. There are six staff with valid paediatric first aid certificates. The nursery receives support from the local authority.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children receive care in a secure environment where there are now routine health and hygiene procedures and practices in place. Each room provides a hazard free environment and a range of activities supporting children's development through use of planned and impromptu learning opportunities. Documentation is in place to support inclusive practice and meet the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Most resources present are accessible to children, however, there are areas of learning where resources are more limited. The partnership with parents is good and links with other carers and professionals is developing. Nursery staff collate the initial information from parents and their observations to establish baselines for each child to ensure their individual needs are identified and that their welfare and learning requirements are appropriately promoted. The acting manager and staff are highlighting aspects of learning and welfare to develop further through the use of action plans.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue increasing the range of resources and opportunities available to children promoting other countries, cultures, access to information communication technology and outdoor play.
- continue to develop self-evaluation systems to record the nursery's strengths and areas to target for development
- continue to improve the accessibility of resources for older children to further

promote their independence and ability to self-select their activities

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Day to day leadership and management of the setting is strong. The acting manager liaises daily with the staff and reports regularly to the owner. Both the acting manager and the staff team are working actively together to promote the learning and development programme available to the children, the health and hygiene of the setting and staff's continued professional development through training. Currently there is no formal nursery self-evaluation form completed, although the acting manager is in consultation with the manager on maternity leave to complete and develop this area in consultation with staff. The acting manager has identified areas of practice and resources to improve and is developing action plans to address these and acknowledge any achievements. These are time bound and reviewed ensuring that the needs of the children remain the focus. Children remain safeguarded through the nursery following rigorous and effective recruitment procedures and completing staff appraisals. There is a good commitment within the setting towards training.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's welfare, learning and development opportunities within the setting are promoted through staff actively planning and making observations and assessments. There are four room bases and children are placed depending on their age and developmental stage. Staff within these rooms provide planned and impromptu opportunities, ranging from exploring both dry and wet Weetabix to doing creative activities with glue, feather, paper and a variety of other materials. Children and staff bond well and staff demonstrate a good understanding of each child's physical and emotional needs.

Children are appropriately supported in developing their independent skills, although at times staff provide too much support for older children by pouring their drinks. Younger children can easily access resources from the low storage units for themselves and staff ensure that resource choices are rotated for variety. The oldest children can easily access most resources, although some are on higher shelving needing staff support and this does not fully promote self-selection or independence. Children participate in some activities that develop their awareness of cultures, countries and the wider world, however, there are currently limited resources available within the nursery. There are also limited resources available for children to use electronic resources, such as tape players, cause and effect and programmable toys, although the acting manager and staff have highlighted this as an area to address.

Throughout the nursery children enjoy doing creative activities and staff display their work on the walls. Staff are gaining in confidence with implementing the EYFS through in-house and external training sessions and working together within their individual rooms to develop the planning and assessments. As a staff team they are actively continuing to develop their practice with some areas identified for further

development. They use any observations undertaken on children to link into the following week's planning to ensure that children's learning and development needs are identified. This ensures they support the children to make steady progress in all areas. Children's opportunities for going outdoors and physical play is currently more limited and generally restricted to times when the weather is good. There is a small outside play area and children also walk to the local library for story time and to the canal if weather permits.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

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

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Satisfactory

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Satisfactory
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Good

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Good
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Satisfactory

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

Since the last inspection Ofsted received two complaints that required the provider to take action. These related to concerns about the suitability of staff, child:staff ratios not being met, the suitability of equipment, the hygiene of the premises and damage to a child's clothing.

We carried out unannounced visit following the first complaint and set actions for the provider to ensure that the attendance register is accurately completed including the correct date, arrival and departure times of children; to ensure that resources are organised so they are readily accessible to children and deploy staff to support children's play and learning; to ensure the premises are adequately ventilated and maintained in a suitable state of repair; to ensure nappy changing facilities are hygienic and comply with environmental health standards and to promote the good health of children and take positive steps to prevent the spread of infection by ensuring that premises and equipment are clean and free of mildew and mould. A response was received confirming that the provider had taken sufficient steps to address the actions.

We asked the provider to investigate the second complaint. We reviewed the provider's investigation report and found that following an incident involving damage to a child's clothing, the provider had taken sufficient steps to ensure future compliance and no further action was taken. The provider remained suitable for registration at the time the investigations were closed.

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 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.