

Notting Hill Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	507987
Inspection date	25/11/2008
Inspector	Carol Cox
Setting address	Badgworth Barns, Notting Hill Way, Weare, Axbridge, Somerset., BS26 2JU
Telephone number	01934 733393
Email	
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).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

Notting Hill Nursery opened in 2001. It operates from five rooms, set in a converted barn in Weare, serving the village and the surrounding areas of Cheddar and Axbridge. The nursery has a baby unit, toddler room, two pre-school rooms and a dining area. There is a large enclosed area available for outside play. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

A maximum of 52 children aged from three months to under eight years may attend at any one time. There are currently 26 children on roll, of whom 26 are in the early years age group, older children may attend at times. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting has experience of supporting children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The nursery is accessible on the ground floor to children and adults with physical disabilities. The nursery opens five days a week for 51 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 07.30 until 18:00.

The owner and manager both hold Early Years degrees and all other staff have appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the local authority.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The diverse needs of each child are met very effectively by highly qualified staff who recognise the unique qualities of each and every child in their care. Parents enjoy strong relationships with staff which contribute significantly to ensuring the individual needs of each child are effectively identified and met. Staff build good links with local schools and other services to make sure that all children are fully supported and make excellent progress with regard to their starting points. The owner and her staff work collaboratively with parents to continually evaluate the quality of the nursery and identify areas for development to ensure the best possible provision for each child.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- ensure routines of the day are responsive to the learning needs of children

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The nursery owner and her manager offer strong leadership to their team of highly qualified and experienced staff to ensure children enjoy a consistently high standard of provision. Children are safeguarded by effective policies and procedures which mean that the individual needs of each child are met. Staff are

extremely well qualified and all enjoy on-going professional development. For example, the staff have embraced and welcomed the Early Years Foundation Stage and have implemented new systems to plan for individual children's learning needs based on information drawn from detailed learning diaries documenting their achievements and progress on their learning journey. The nursery team have taken effective action to address all the recommendations from the previous inspection and continue to review the provision to meet children's needs. For example, on-going evaluations have highlighted the need to reorganise snack time to extend children's opportunities to continue their involvement with chosen activities.

The rigorous recruitment procedure means that children flourish in the care of well qualified adults who are carefully vetted to ensure they are suitable to work with children. All staff have a clear understanding of child protection issues and safeguard children because they know exactly what to do should they have concerns about a child. Staff benefit from regular staff reviews when their individual skills are recognised and plans are made for future training and development. For example, one member of staff is currently training as a Forest School assistant and thus is able to extend children's experiences when playing in the large and exciting outdoor area.

Children's experiences are considerably enhanced because staff have excellent relationships with parents and other agencies. For example, parents are wholly involved in planning care when their children start at nursery, they are offered regular opportunities to become involved in activities at home and enjoy 'hands on' sessions when they find out more about how their children learn through practical activities. Parents particularly appreciate their children's beautifully detailed and illustrated learning diaries.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children flourish in the excellent care of the enthusiastic and sensitive adults who clearly enjoy their relationships with children and their families. There are robust procedures in place to ensure children's continuing safety. Risk assessments are regularly updated and children are encouraged to learn about keeping themselves safe. For example, when visiting the chickens, a young child reminds everyone that they must keep to the side of the lane when a car comes by. Staff are knowledgeable about child protection procedures and the individual needs of children are carefully documented and shared with all staff in confidence. Children's health is effectively promoted, for example, through stringent procedures to gain consent and guidance from parents when children require medication. Staff help children learn to manage their own behaviour through sensitive and appropriate guidance. Staff work closely with parents and partner agencies when difficulties arise to provide a consistent approach for individual children. Thus children's behaviour is exemplary and staff provide positive and enabling role models.

Children make excellent progress in their learning and development in relation to their starting points and subsequent achievements. The key person system means

that children's progress is regularly observed and noted in their learning diaries, therefore, planning is responsive to individual children's interests and identified next learning needs. Thus staff are able to plan an exciting environment which is stimulating and challenging to all children. Children benefit from easily accessible resources carefully chosen to offer good challenges, for example, babies are fascinated by treasure baskets containing everyday objects for them to explore. Throughout the nursery children are encouraged to initiate activities and freely explore and express themselves with an abundant range of materials and resources. They enjoy warm and meaningful interactions with staff who clearly enjoy their time with children. Children show great pleasure in their sense of belonging, their contributions are highly valued and all are fully included in activities throughout the nursery.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is 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?	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	1
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	1
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	1
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	1

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 B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

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 there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider, or Ofsted, to take any action. 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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