

# Caterham Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number** EY281897  
**Inspection date** 04/03/2009  
**Inspector** Joanne Lindsey Caswell / Jacqui Lloyd

**Setting address** Burntwood Lane, Caterham-on-the-Hill, Surrey, CR3 5UL

**Telephone number** 01883 330122

**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).

## Description of the setting

Caterham Day Nursery is part of the Asquith family of nurseries. The nursery opened in 1996 and operates from a purpose built single storey building in Caterham, Surrey, close to schools, transport links and a mainline railway station. The nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 to 18:00. By prior arrangement, extended day provision can be provided starting from 07:30. Children are cared for in group rooms and there is a fully enclosed outdoor play area available.

The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register. A maximum of 72 children may attend the nursery at any one time. There are currently 136 children, aged from nine months to four years, on roll.

There are 17 permanent members of staff. Of these, 12 staff hold appropriate early years qualifications to level three or equivalent and five staff are currently working towards a qualification. In addition to the permanent staff, a team of 10 qualified and experienced contracted staff regularly work at the nursery on a supply basis.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding. Exemplary practice across all areas of the nursery ensures staff promote all aspects of children's learning and welfare. The provision for inclusive practice is exceptional and the unique qualities of every child are highly valued and respected. Children are extremely safe and secure as the procedures for risk assessment are excellent and all staff take full responsibility for safeguarding children. Comprehensive self-evaluation methods ensure the nursery staff frequently review their practice, ensuring improvements are continually made and the nursery offers the highest standards of practice.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continuing to implement the excellent methods of self evaluation to enhance the overall provision and address any identified areas for development

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

The nursery is managed by a strong, competent manager who leads by example and is fully supported by an extremely well-established, highly-motivated, professional team. All staff are totally committed towards promoting children's learning and development and supporting each child's personal needs. The nursery manager and her staff are totally committed to making continuous improvement and this makes a significant impact on enhancing the learning programme. Staff

carry out regular evaluations on all areas of practice and prioritise any areas for development extremely well. As a result, children make exceptional progress in their learning and develop extremely positive attitudes towards exploring, finding out new things and becoming active learners.

Staff are highly skilled in providing a rich environment full of fun activities which children thoroughly enjoy and the sound of children's laughter is evident throughout the nursery. The outside area is a key strength of the nursery and staff utilise this highly effectively in order to promote all areas of learning and development. For example, children thoroughly enjoy growing their own vegetables, digging and hunting for worms and insects in the area of the garden known as 'Grandad's Garden'. They enjoy exceptional opportunities for role-play in the extremely well-resourced 'Builder's Yard' and use their own creativity to play with everyday objects, such as milk crates and traffic cones, in the 'Urban Jungle'. The Baby Garden provides a highly stimulating, safe and exciting environment for the youngest children with excellent provision in place to meet the needs of all babies.

The promotion of inclusive practice is outstanding. Staff are highly intuitive with all children and respect their individual preferences. For example, staff recognise when some children prefer to play more quietly inside, and choose not to go outside. The key person system is excellent as staff know each child exceptionally well and tailor the daily routine in order to cater for each child's feeding, sleeping and welfare needs.

Children have uninterrupted time to really enjoy their learning and explore activities and develop their imagination and natural curiosity. Activities are planned as a result of children's own ideas and children's views are clearly listened to, acknowledged and respected. For example, children make their own suggestions for the organisation of the role-play area, and staff respond to this positively. As a result, children are totally settled and at ease in the staff's care and form extremely strong emotional attachments.

The planning and assessment procedures are excellent. Staff frequently monitor children's learning and development and evaluate activities to ensure all children can participate fully. Effective observation methods enable staff to really reflect on what children are doing and showing interest in and this enables staff to confidently identify children's future learning needs. Strong partnerships are established with parents/carers and other early years professionals ensuring children's individual needs are consistently recognised, planned for and addressed.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Children develop an excellent understanding of how to be healthy. The exciting outside areas are used continuously and children benefit from ample amounts of fresh air, physical activity and exercise. Comprehensive measures are taken to enable children to play outside throughout the year. For example, they wear waterproof clothing and good procedures are in place to protect children from the sun. Children's physical well-being is promoted exceptionally well as they sleep in

accordance with their individual needs and enjoy an excellent selection of healthy, nutritional meals and snacks. Children are consistently protected against infection as staff maintain a clean and very hygienic environment and help children to clearly understand the importance of personal care routines, such as wiping noses with tissues and washing hands thoroughly.

The provision for helping children understand the importance of safety is exemplary. Children undertake activities such as woodwork, as staff carry out appropriate risk assessments and help children learn about possible risks. As a result, children clearly understand they must be careful whilst using tools and wear appropriate goggles. During practical activities and role play, children become aware of potential hazards and recognise what action they must take to keep themselves safe. For example, in the role play 'Builder's Yard', staff display real health and safety signs helping children to recognise why they must wear hard hats and keep themselves safe.

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at nursery and achieve exceptionally well. They form close relationships with their peers and the staff. They understand the importance of sharing and taking turns and play very cooperatively together, sharing ideas and negotiating with one another. All children behave well as they understand staff's expectations and are familiar with the simple nursery 'Golden Rules'. Many organised events help children respect the needs of others. For example, they regularly take part in fund raising events for different charities and learn about childhood in other countries as they correspond with a sponsored child in Africa. As a result, children develop positive attitudes towards acknowledging the needs of others and respecting diversity.

## 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

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

### Leadership and management

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

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	1
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
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](http://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**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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.