

Happy Stars Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY369205
Inspection date	04/12/2008
Inspector	Maria Therese Conroy
Setting address	St Andrews Church, St Andrews Road, LONDON, NW10 2QS
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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

Happy Stars Nursery operates from the church hall adjoining St Andrews Church in Willesden in the London Borough of Brent. The nursery operates from the church hall using the large playroom and an outdoor play area. A maximum of 25 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open from 08:00 to 18:00 all year round. The nursery offer a variety of sessions including 08:00 to 13:00, 08:00 to 18:00, 09:00 to 15:00 and 13:00 to 18:00. Children have access to a secure outdoor play area. There are currently 33 children on roll, of these three are in receipt of funding. The nursery was registered in 2008 and has been open for 12 weeks.

The nursery employs five staff of whom four are qualified and one is currently undertaking training. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register and compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Staff have a sound knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and therefore children are making satisfactory progress in their learning and development. The nursery have begun to obtain more detailed information from parents, which will enable staff to plan for children's individual care and learning more effectively. Staff are kind and caring towards the children, which helps them feel safe and secure in their environment. The setting have recently started to include parents in their self-evaluation, however, they have yet to fully include all staff as part of the process.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure the support children receive as they learn is personalised to meet their individual needs and extend their learning
- continue to develop staff knowledge and understanding of the implementation of the EYFS and assessment procedures
- develop effective systems to identify and access staff skills and their practice

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The manager of the nursery is a good role model for her staff and is proactive in developing this new service, which has recently opened. The nursery has grown rapidly and as a result the manager is part of the staff team working directly with the children, which has had an impact on her ability to assess staff understanding and implementation of the curriculum. In addition the manager has yet to fully develop systems to monitor the staff practice and identify their skills and areas for improvement.

The setting is beginning to develop a good partnership with parents and the local authority to support the staff in meeting children's individual needs. Effective settling in procedures ensures that children feel safe and secure, which enable parents to feel reassured.

The nursery makes good use of the space available; children are cared for and educated in a spacious, safe and welcoming environment. For example, risk assessments are undertaken to identify potential hazards and the six areas of learning have been defined with good quality resources and equipment to support children's learning.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Staff have a satisfactory understanding of the EYFS, however, they are not as confident in the delivery of the curriculum, for example including learning experiences in everyday practices. Children are provided with a wide range of activities promoting all six areas of learning, for example children enjoy playing in the hairdressers, they are learning to take turns and negotiate roles with their friends. Staff talk to the children about what they are doing, however, they do not always ask open ended questions to encourage children to think for themselves or challenge their learning. The nursery room is well organised and encourages children to become independent and move freely from one area to another. Thought has been given to how younger children are given the freedom to explore safely while older children are given the opportunity to take part in activities that are more appropriate for their stage of development.

Staff have begun to observe children and identify the next steps in children's learning, however, this process is in its infancy and is not yet fully effective. Staff use information gained through observation and from parents about children's likes and dislikes to influence their planning of the activities. There are suitable communication systems in place to keep parents informed. For example, regular reviews are planned and a weekly activity sheet is sent home with the children to inform parents what they have been involved in. Staff make time to speak to the parents daily and have begun to translate some of the information into other languages to reflect the needs of the families who attend.

Children have many opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyle, for example they regularly take part in physical activities, such as music and movement, they use the outdoor play area twice a day where they peddle, climb, slide and run around. They walk to the library and to the local greengrocer, where they learn to recognise a variety of fruits and vegetables. Children are provided with a healthy varied diet which contributes to their well-being. Children can independently access fresh drinking water throughout the day to enable re-hydration. Menus are on display for parents to see and specific dietary needs are adhered to, and first aid and medication procedures are effective, all of which protects children and keeps them safe.

Children are fully safeguarded because of the effective procedures. Robust

recruitment procedures are in place, which ensures that all staff working with the children are suitably vetted and trained to do so. Staff are knowledgeable of the steps to be taken to protect children, for example visitors sign the record book, staff are vigilant as they continually monitor the entrance to the nursery play area, regular risk assessments are undertaken and children wear florescent jackets on local outings so they are clearly visible for staff to see.

Children behave well, they are reminded by staff to walk and not run at nursery, staff explain the reasons why, which enables children to learn right from wrong. Children's self-esteem is promoted, for example they can see photos of themselves taking part in activities and their work is displayed at low level to enable them to show their parents and their friends. Children are gaining confidence and independence as they take themselves to the toilet and make choices from the good quality resources available at low level. Children have many opportunities to celebrate various festivals through a range of art and craft activities.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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 registration 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.