

# Kidsunlimited Nurseries - Milton Park

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	134929
<b>Inspection date</b>	23/06/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Caroline Hearn / Tracy Bartholomew

<b>Setting address</b>	106 Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4RZ
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<b>Type of setting</b>	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 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

Kidsunlimited Milton Park Day Nursery is one of a chain of nurseries owned by the Kidsunlimited group. The nursery opened in 2000 and is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. It operates from purpose built premises. Each age group has their own base room and secure outdoor play area immediately outside the doors. The nursery is situated on the Milton Park business complex, near Didcot in Oxfordshire. A maximum of 148 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open on weekdays, from 07.30 to 18.00, throughout the year, apart from bank holidays. The nursery serves the local employees and families from the neighbouring communities.

There are currently 114 children aged from five months to under five years on roll. The nursery currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 42 members of staff. Of these, 21 hold appropriate early years qualifications and four are working towards a qualification.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate. Procedures and policies are not consistently being acted upon to ensure children's safety and wellbeing. The key person approach is not implemented or fully understood by all staff and this reduces their ability to build close relationships with the children and fully meet their individual needs. The nursery has recently appointed a new temporary manager who has carried out a full evaluation of the nursery and has put in place an action plan to bring about the required changes. Due to this they are demonstrating a satisfactory ability to self-evaluate.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

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

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure planning allows children to undertake a balance of activities which cover all areas of learning (Educational programmes) 10/07/2009
- ensure meaningful observations are undertaken for each child and that these are used to inform future planning (Assessment arrangements) 10/07/2009
- ensure risk assessments are undertaken on all areas used by the children and appropriate action is taken to 10/07/2009

make these areas safe such as ensuring children do not have access to unsuitable products which may cause them harm if consumed (Safeguarding and welfare)

- ensure at mealtimes children's preferences are taken into account and that those children who miss meal times are not served the hot food, such as casserole, cold (Promoting good health) 10/07/2009
- ensure toilet areas are clean and that children's privacy is maintained (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) 10/07/2009
- ensure children's records contain information regarding their cultural background and that staff are aware of these to enable children to have opportunities to develop and use their home language in their play and learning (Organisation) 10/07/2009
- devise and implement an action plan detailing how staff deployment will meet the needs of the children attending (Organisation) 10/07/2009
- ensure the key person approach is implemented and understood by all staff to allow each child to develop a secure relationship with those directly caring for them (Organisation) 10/07/2009
- ensure nursery policies and procedures are followed when children are unwell (Organisation) 10/07/2009

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

This nursery has until recently lacked adequate leadership and management. They have recently appointed a consultant to oversee the management role whilst they look to appoint a permanent manager. This change has, however, happened very recently and they have just begun to address the many issues caused by the previous weak leadership and management. They have carried out a full evaluation of the provision and put in place a clear action plan to address the issues and some of these changes are evident such as having the correct ratios of staff working with the children.

The nursery follows clear procedures for the recruitment and vetting of staff to ensure the suitability of those in regular contact with the children. Following their recent changes the management team have invited parents in to discuss their concerns regarding the nursery and these have been recorded and begun to be acted upon. Due to the limited record keeping for some children and the lack of an effective key person system parents are not able to gain a true picture of their child's achievements.

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

The nursery does not operate an effective key person system which reduces their ability to meet the needs of the children. This ineffective key person system is further hampered by the poor deployment of staff. Due to staff failing to understand the learning and development aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage it is difficult to assess each child's developmental progress. The activities they have recorded in their planning sheets fail to effectively cover all six areas of learning and therefore children are not being offered a balanced range of play opportunities to promote all areas of their development.

Risk assessments are not consistently undertaken on all areas used by the children. This results in staff not being aware of glass in the garden area or that the babies can climb on a sofa and access bottles of sun cream. The nursery employs a cleaner, however, staff who are with the children in the various rooms do not always keep areas such as the toilets and changing mats suitably clean. Policies and procedures regarding preventing the spread of infection are not robustly adhered to, for example, when children are unwell and have high temperatures the policy of sending them home is not always followed. Both the lack of cleanliness and failure to follow policies puts the children at risk of cross infection.

Children with different cultural or religious backgrounds do not have these taken into account and no record of these is made in their profiles. There is also no record of children's home language if this is not English. This fails to allow these children opportunities to develop and use their home language in their play and learning.

Children are encouraged to wash their hands after playing in the garden or before meal times. Staff explain to them why this is necessary and this gives the children an understanding of how they can promote their good health. Mealtimes are social occasions with the children in each room sitting and chatting about their day with the staff. Staff record and follow children's dietary requirements but do not adhere to their preferences. Children who have it clearly stated in their records that they do not like a certain food are not offered an alternative. Care is taken to ensure food is prepared and stored safely. Staff have taken guidance regarding not reheating food on board but have not considered talking to the kitchen staff to see how food set aside for babies who sleep through lunch could be served heated and not straight from the fridge, this is especially key when the meal is, for example, a casserole.

## 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>	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	4
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?	4
How well are children safeguarded?	4

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	4
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	4
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	4
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	4
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	4

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 B: the Childcare Register**

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