



## **The Children's Centre**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY306083
<b>Inspection date</b>	24 April 2006
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<b>Registered person</b>	Bright Horizons Family Solutions Ltd
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day care

## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### 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*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Children's Centre registered in April 2005 and is one of 100 nurseries run by Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited. It operates from the Wellness exchange in the City of London. The nursery has the use of three rooms, toilets, kitchen, laundry, office and staff room. The nursery opens 5 days per week, 52 weeks of the year. Opening hours are from 07.00 to 18.15. The nursery offers emergency day care and serves parents who work for Goldman Sachs.

There are currently 716 children, aged from 3 months to 8 years, on roll. Places are also offered to children up to the age of 12 years. However, only 45 children attend at

any one time.

The nursery employs seven staff, most staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications; one staff member is unqualified.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through well-planned daily routines. They know to wash their hands before eating their lunch. There are effective hygiene procedures in place and staff adhere to good practice, when changing children's nappies and when preparing and serving food. There are also effective accident and medication procedures in place and staff ensures that the systems for keeping records meets with requirement. Children will be appropriately treated in the event of an emergency, because most staff members are qualified in first aid.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. Staff promotes healthy eating well by offering children healthy balanced, varied snacks and meals. Children are offered drinks at regular intervals throughout the day; older children can freely access water from the tap. Babies are given milk and water in accordance with their home routines. Children's individual dietary needs are met well, because staff are fully aware of each child's dietary requirements.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a bright, clean and comfortable environment. They move around freely and independently access wide range resources. Staff use the space effectively, to meet the needs of the children. There are suitable arrangements made for children to sleep; when babies are asleep they are monitored appropriately by staff.

Children are cared for in a safe environment, they are protected from intruders by the use of an effective intercom system. They are kept safe whilst moving around the nursery, because staff supervise effectively and are well deployed. Babies are not always protected from potential risk, because their bottles are not suitably labelled.

Children are well protected by staff, who has a clear understanding of how to implement the setting's child protection policies, which are in line with the London Child Protection Procedure.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Babies received good care and are well settled. They have good relationships with staff, who attends to their needs well. Children enjoy playing with a wide range of stimulating activities. Staff are always on hand to provide the babies with a lot of reassurance, if they become unsettled. This makes them feel secure and increases their sense of wellbeing.

Children's communication skills are effectively encouraged by staff. Children enjoy engaging in conversations at the dinner table and they readily share their experiences. Staff has meaningful conversations with children and encourages them to talk about the foods that they like.

Children are encouraged to develop an appreciation of books and during story time they enjoyed listening to stories. They actively participated in talking about the different vegetables they saw. Children have good opportunities to use books independently, from a well resourced reading area.

Children are well settled and are confident and independent. They have good opportunities to initiate their play, because staff are skilled at striking a balance between adult and child led activities.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children benefit from good interaction with staff, who promotes children's self-esteem and confidence well. Staff values children's contribution and praises them for achievement. Children behave well and work harmoniously with each other, they play well together and show care and regard for each other. Children have insufficient opportunities to use a wide range of resources that reflects diversity.

Children are developing an understanding of right and wrong, because staff have high expectations of them. Children respond positively when staff intervenes to challenge inappropriate behaviour.

The partnership between parents and staff is good. Staff and parents have a good daily exchange of information about the children's needs and parents receive good written information about the service provided. There is a good complaints procedure in place, which meets with requirements.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Staff work well together as a team and are deployed appropriately, to ensure that children are not at risk. All policies and procedures are in place and are implemented well by staff. However, details on accidents records are faded and are difficult to read and some observations records are not dated. Records on children and staff are securely locked away.

There are effective recruitment procedures in place, which ensure that staff are

appropriately vetted. Most staff are appropriately qualified, one staff member is unqualified. Overall, the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide care.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration

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 QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE**

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

## **WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?**

### **The quality and standards of the care**

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that children's bottles are clearly labelled for identification purposes
- provide children with access to a wide range of resources that reflect diversity
- ensure that accidents records are clearly written and ensure that records on children are signed and dated appropriately

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)