



Beach House Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY268583

Inspection date 22 November 2005

Inspector Jill Steer

Setting Address 9 The Burrells, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5HF

Telephone number 01273 441100

E-mail

Registered person Faye Ann Robinson

Type of inspection Integrated

Type of care 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.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE AND NURSERY EDUCATION

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.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are good.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Beach House Day Nursery opened in 2004. It operates from two rooms in a single storey building, the main room being purpose built. It is situated in Shoreham-by-Sea. A maximum of 15 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 8:00 to 18:00 all year except for Bank Holidays.

There are currently 43 children aged from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 14 funded 3 year olds and 1 funded 4 year old. Children attend from a wide catchment

area.

The nursery employs 6 staff who work with the children. All of the staff have an appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy the opportunity to take part in physical play on a daily basis, which contributes to developing a healthy lifestyle. They practise their skills outdoors as they pedal and manoeuvre bikes and cars, whilst indoor activities encourage them to test their balance. For example, as they negotiate the maze of beams with developing confidence, staff support them and advise using their outstretched arms to help and using a graphic example of circus performers holding an umbrella for balance.

Meal times are sociable as staff sit and eat alongside the children at the table, encouraging them to enjoy their food. They benefit from a range of healthy and nutritious meals, prepared daily from fresh ingredients. Children clearly understand how eating well contributes to their good health. For example, they talk about becoming 'strong and healthy', and 'getting good muscles'. Parents are able to find out how well their children have eaten via a display board which children cheerfully discuss with them as they go home.

Children understand and develop simple good hygiene practices which protect them from the spread of infection. They are encouraged to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating food, and the facilities allow them to manage independently, developing their confidence. They are protected from cross contamination because staff have a good understanding of the nursery's hygiene procedures which they follow effectively. For example, they wear gloves for nappy changing and dispose carefully of nappies, and only staff who have completed Food Hygiene training prepare snacks.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment which attractively displays parent notices and children's work. They arrive happily and settle well, confident with the familiar routine of changing their shoes and finding their name. Children have independent access to a wide range of good quality resources, stored suitably to allow them to make their own choices.

Regular risk assessments enable staff to identify and minimise any potential risks, and ensure that relevant precautions are taken. Such as talking to children about not running along the corridor to prevent bumping into each other. Children are developing an understanding of keeping themselves and others safe. For example,

staff remind them to look around, making sure they have sufficient space to play their tambourine without hitting someone else.

The welfare of the children is safeguarded because staff understand the nursery's child protection policy, and understand their responsibility if they have concerns about any child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, confident and settled within the nursery setting. A team of experienced staff develop stable relationships with the children which helps them to achieve well and fosters their emotional wellbeing. They arrive enthusiastically, are eager to participate in the wide range of activities provided and have positive attitudes towards learning.

There are many opportunities for children to develop independence as they make choices about the toys and resources they want to play with, enabling them to initiate and express their own ideas. Children under three explore and experiment through a range of well-planned activities which are appropriate for their stage of development. However, the assessments do not provide sufficient information for staff to efficiently plan the next steps in their learning.

Children enjoy many music and rhyme sessions, gleefully joining in with the actions. Good opportunities are available for children to engage in role-play such as feeding babies and mending cars in the garage. They enjoy discovering a variety of contrasting textures as they experiment with wobbly, squidgy jelly, and make patterns with their fingers in dry sand.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. A well-balanced curriculum ensures children have a wide range of experiences that supports their learning in all areas. Good observations identify children's stages of learning so that staff can plan the next steps for each child. Children enjoy taking part in themed activities which are well planned and presented with positive learning intentions. Staff show interest and enthusiasm and are deployed effectively to extend and support children's learning. They have a sound knowledge and understanding of the Foundation Stage which helps children make steady progress towards the early learning goals.

Children have good relationships with staff and each other. They come into the nursery confidently and settle quickly to their chosen activity. Children access writing materials easily which enables them to develop their independence. They begin to understand that letters and words have meaning while using writing for a purpose, such as making appointments in the garage reception in the role play area. There are many opportunities throughout the day for children to develop their understanding of number, calculation and shape. They use mathematical language appropriately and are developing contexts such as full, empty, adding and subtracting.

Children have many opportunities to be independent. They are encouraged to manage their personal needs such as hanging up coats, changing shoes, and visiting the toilet. Children speak confidently to adults and peers, expressing their needs and discussing what they are doing. They show an interest in and find out about, the world around them. For example, they compare the texture of stepping stones to scales on animals, they discuss the animals buried in the sand as hibernating because it is winter, and they use a fireman's hose to extinguish the car fire in the role play area.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated with respect, helping them to feel good about themselves. Staff have a positive attitude towards diversity, and help children develop an awareness of their own and other cultures. Planned activities and a good range of resources help them celebrate a variety of festivals. Children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered well.

Staff are good role models who encourage the children to behave well. They are calm, consistent and polite creating a harmonious environment where people care about each other. Children are encouraged to respect themselves and each other, sharing, taking turns, and helping. For example, as a child struggles to hang his coat on the peg, another child offers help. Children have a strong sense of belonging as they take pride in their work which is clearly displayed for them to see and show other's.

The partnership with parents is good. All children are valued as individuals and their needs are effectively met using the information gathered from parents. This contributes considerably to children's well being whilst at the nursery. Parents are informed about their children's progress through daily discussion with the staff. However, opportunities for parents to view and discuss children's developmental profiles formally are limited. Regular newsletters keep parents informed about topics and activities within the nursery which enables them to become involved in what the children are doing. This helps ensure children's care is shared between nursery and home, establishing a strong link between parents and staff within which children develop and feel secure.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are comfortable and feel at ease in the nursery because staff create a relaxed and welcoming environment. All children benefit from good support by a team of committed staff who enjoy their company and know them well. The nursery is well organised and children are able to play happily both indoors and out. There are high ratios of staff to children and staff are well deployed at all times. All policies and procedures are in place to promote children's well being, and these are regularly updated to ensure current best practice. All the required documentation is in place,

well maintained and stored efficiently and confidentially.

Leadership and Management is good. Management have a high regard for the staff team. They work well together, and clear communication and guidance allows them to provide a stimulating, well-balanced programme. Individual staff training needs are identified, with staff attending a range of courses to ensure they can fulfil their individual roles. Management evaluate the service provided and there is a strong commitment to creating a rich learning environment for children. All staff have a good understanding of the Foundation Stage and contribute to the curriculum planning, providing a comprehensive timetable of play based learning. Overall, the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the nursery were asked to improve documentation regarding staff details and medication consent.

They now hold emergency contact details for all staff, and obtain written parental consent before administering medication to children.

Complaints since the last inspection

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.

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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):

- Improve assessments for younger children to enable staff to plan the next steps for their development through play.

The quality and standards of the nursery education

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

- Improve information to parents about their child's progress and achievements.

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