



Acton Yochien

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY303993
Inspection date	01 November 2005
Inspector	Christine Bonnett
Setting Address	Queens Drive Pavillion, Queens Drive, London, W3 0HT
Telephone number	020 8343 2191
E-mail	
Registered person	Golders Hill School Ltd.
Type of inspection	Childcare
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

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?

Acton Yochien is one of two nurseries run by Golders Hill School limited, operating under the trading name of Maeda Gakuen Group. It opened in 2004, and operates from a room within The Japanese School, located in Acton, in the London Borough of Ealing. A maximum of 18 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 09:00 to 14:45 term time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 18 children aged from 2 to under 4 years on roll. Most of the children attending come from expatriate Japanese families living in the local

community. Japanese is the only language spoken in the nursery.

The nursery employs four staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted as the premises are maintained to a high standard of cleanliness. Children are developing good personal hygiene routines as they wash their hands before meals and after visiting the cloakroom. In addition, they understand that if cutlery is dropped while eating, it needs to be washed before resuming the meal. Children's health is also safeguarded because staff implement effective hygiene procedures to minimise the risk of cross-infection, for example when responding to accidents.

Children have daily opportunities to enjoy vigorous exercise outdoors to promote fitness, for example they run around freely in the large, well-maintained grounds and splash in the puddles.

Children benefit from nutritious and healthy meals. Parents order lunch for their child three days a week from a specially planned menu, which caters for individual dietary needs. Parents supply the children's snacks every day and lunch twice a week. Children sit around tables for their meals and a relaxed and social atmosphere is created. Social skills and good manners are also promoted.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children move freely and safely around the environment, both inside and out, because staff pay good attention to ensuring potential hazards are reduced and children's safety promoted. Fire drills are held regularly to facilitate the safe and rapid evacuation of the premises in the event of an emergency. The emergency escape plan is written in Japanese, and consequently could not be understood by non-Japanese speaking visitors to the nursery. The security of the premises could be compromised as not all visitors are asked to sign the visitors book to ensure accurate information about who is on the site at any one time is retained.

Children benefit from the welcoming surroundings. Staff greet them and their parents warmly each day, which ensures they feel secure and content. The building is bright and stimulating to help create a positive learning environment. Children are able to make choices as they enjoy access to a range of play equipment and resources that are stored at low-level to encourage independence.

Children's welfare is safeguarded through the staff's understanding and knowledge of child protection matters, they have a clear procedure to follow should they have

concerns about the well-being of a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at nursery. They arrive happy and confident and quickly settle into the routine. They become competent learners as they make their own choices during the "free play" period, for example selecting building blocks and threading which helps develop their manipulative skills. They also enjoy opportunities to express themselves through imaginative play in the home corner.

Children have fun and laugh as they join-in enthusiastically with action songs and concentrate through story time. Staff motivate the children and provide a warm and caring environment in which children want to learn.

Children also enjoy being in each other's company and demonstrate this by playing cooperatively together. They are learning about taking turns and giving each other time, particularly when singing songs in which children sing individual lines.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are learning right from wrong through the use of positive methods to manage behaviour. They have very good awareness of the behavioural boundaries and expectations within the setting. Children are developing an understanding of cultures and traditions other than their own through the acknowledgement of different faith festivals, such as Christmas and Easter.

Children are learning to be kind and respectful towards each other because the staff are appropriate role models and set good examples. Good manners and consideration for others is encouraged and children are developing a sense of belonging within the group which creates a calm and harmonious atmosphere.

Children are treated as individuals by being allowed time to develop their independence, for example putting on their own coats and finishing their meal without being hurried. This enables them to develop their own skills, at their own pace, as well as promoting good self-esteem and confidence.

Children benefit from effective working partnerships with parents, which contributes to their well-being. Parents receive daily verbal feedback about their child and written reports containing their child's progress and achievements are given weekly. A wealth of information about the learning programme, nursery routine and procedures is available for parents to consult to ensure they are kept well informed.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from being cared for in a well-organised environment in which they become familiar with the routine and what is expected of them. This adds to children's sense of security and well-being. The deployment of staff is good. They ensure that all children are happily engaged in purposeful activities. Staff are supported by management through regular meetings, and training on relevant issues is available, for example the Birth to Three Matters framework.

Children profit from a staff team that works well together to deliver a stimulating and fun experience for them. Their welfare is also safeguarded as appropriate policies and procedures are implemented effectively by staff which successfully promote positive outcomes for children.

The setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report

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 the emergency escape plan can be understood by non-Japanese speaking visitors.
- ensure all visitors to the premises complete the visitors book containing the name of the person/s, purpose of the visit and times of arrival and departure.

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