



Lollipops Child Care Ltd

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY239558
Inspection date	03 February 2006
Inspector	Judith Harris
Setting Address	Bramble House, 88 Southwood Road, New Eltham, London, SE9 3QT
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Registered person	Lollipops Childcare Ltd.
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?

Lollipops Nursery at Bramble House opened in 2002 following a relocation of premises. It is a privately owned nursery operating from a three story detached house in New Eltham close to local shops, parks and New Eltham station. The nursery have a baby unit on the ground floor and a nursery unit on the first floor. They serve the local and surrounding areas providing a mix of part time and full time places. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

There are currently 42 children from 10 months to 5 years on roll. This includes 11 funded 3 year olds and 15 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 07:45 until 18:15.

There are 13 full-time staff work with the children. Staff qualifications include NNEB; NVQ2 and 3, plus unqualified and trainee staff. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The nursery have comprehensive health and hygiene policies and procedures which are effectively used and closely follow environmental health and hygiene guidelines. The effective use of these procedures successfully supports children's health. Children are learning to use a wide range of appropriate hygiene routines and learning good basic hygiene skills. The routines ensure children wash hands after using the toilet and that all children go to the bathroom before and after meals to wash hands and faces. Staff use anti-bacterial spray to clean tables or to wipe down the changing mat and any other areas used by children.

Children are provided with healthy, balanced and nutritious meals and snacks through the effective partnership between parents and the nursery. Meals are prepared and cooked on the premises by the nursery's cook. Parents are provided with weekly menus that let them know what the children will eat each week. The children sit together at lunch and snack time, which are social occasions where children are learning appropriate social skills. The children are able to make choices about snacks and to help themselves to water at all times while they play. Any special dietary needs are carefully monitored and effectively met. The nursery take a good range of details from parents and record information about children's dietary needs and any medical or special needs.

Children have a wide range of daily physical activities which effectively provide them with extensive opportunities to develop their physical skills and to exercise. The children play in the garden where they have an interesting space which is organised to provide versatile areas for different types of outdoor activities. The children have an area with a challenging range of climbing frames and equipment on a soft surface; an area with balancing beams and space for ride-on toys; sensory area with a play house and a garden for planting and growing. The children are climbing, sliding and balancing; they play on bikes and play with bats and balls.

Children's individual needs for rest and sleep are effectively met within the daily routines. The children under two can sleep at any time; they have a separate sleep space with a cot or bed for each child and their own bedding. Younger children who

need to sleep in the pre-school room have rest beds put out after lunch in the quiet room. Children can rest at other times if they need to, there is a comfortable and relaxing book area in one of their rooms that they can use at any time.

Four staff members hold a current first aid certificate; which means that appropriate care can be given if there is an accident.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The nursery is clean and well maintained. The play space in each room is effectively organised to meet the needs of the children and to allow them access to different types of activities. The children are able to move around the within the play space safely and the highly suitable levels of supervision ensure the children play with toys and resources that are appropriate for their ages. The nursery is secure and staff closely monitor all arrivals and departures. Visitors must show identification and sign the visitors record. There are good systems in place to ensure children only leave the nursery with known and approved adults. A system of regular risk assessments are in place which help to effectively ensure the children's safety.

The children have access to a good range of toys and equipment. The staff have effective systems for ensuring that resources are clean and safe. Children are able to choose freely from the play resources and the staff monitor the children's choices. This enables the staff to ensure that the children are using equipment safely and while developing good levels of independence.

The children are clearly learning about keeping themselves safe; the staff talk to them while they play. They are helping the children to gain an awareness of their own safety with the use of simple rules for moving about, climbing and using equipment. They help the children to understand the importance of being careful of others.

Children are protected from harm because staff understand their role in child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and happy at the nursery; they take part in a very good range of well planned activities and have positive relationships with the adults and each other. The staff work well as a team and are making very effective use of their skills to support the children's learning and development. Birth to Three matters is used to plan for the under threes; and the Foundation Stage is used to plan for the three to five year olds. A system for daily observations is used to allow staff to record each child's progress and makes plans for their next steps. The balance and range of activities clearly meets the individual needs of all the children across the age range from babies to five year olds.

The babies and toddlers are being supported to become competent learners and

skilful communicators. They move freely around their allocated rooms which have good amounts of clear floor space. The children have access to a wide range of toys including building and sorting toys, books and musical instruments. The adults sit on the floor with the children, the children play with bricks and the adults and talk to the them about what they are doing. There is a good range of indoor and outdoor play; creative activities, dressing up and role play, singing and stories. The children have good levels of independence they make choices about activities and their play is mostly child led. The adults are interacting with the children who are beginning to develop language skills and staff use a range of language with the children but the interaction is not extensive.

Nursery Education

The children are interested motivated learners who are able to make choices about activities and have free access to role play, sand and water, graphics and maths areas, the book corner and creative play. The planning is done by the whole staff team and planned activities link clearly to the early learning goals and support the children to make very good progress. Children use a good range of language to organise their play, they read and tell stories with an adult and have plenty of opportunities to practise writing skills. The children take part in lots of activities that support them to develop good maths skills. They are counting, learning about shapes and sizes, they use a good range of mathematical language talking about bigger and smaller, and shorter and taller. Children use their imagination to develop role play games and they have time and space to extend and expand the game. The children take part in a good range of creative activities, they have planned activities and free collage and creative table that they can access at any time.

The quality of teaching and learning is good; adults have a sound knowledge of the foundation stage and plan well for children with a good range and balance of activities. An effective system of observations of individual children's progress is used which enables adults to plan for children's next steps. The activities and experiences provided, cover each area of learning and meet the individual needs of all the children in the group. Adults clearly make best use of all planned and naturally occurring situations using a good range on open questions to challenge and extend the children.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are positively supported with levels of supervision which are suitable for their ages and abilities in each room. The nursery have a policy with good systems and procedures for identifying and supporting children with special needs. A good range of information is taken from parents at admission and this information is kept up to date.

The children are happy and comfortable in the nursery; they have a clear sense of the daily routine and good relationships with members of staff. Children have suitable levels of independence in most areas they are able to make choices about what to play with and can help themselves when they need a drink. At lunch time the

children's food is served which limits their independent choice. The pre-school children organise their own play, use the toilet independently and move freely around in their play space. well supported to play together, to share and take turns and to develop and understanding for the feelings of others. The babies and toddlers have lots of free play with set times for outdoor play. They move confidently around the play space and freely access toys and equipment. The good levels of supervision allow them to develop their independence and be safe and secure.

The children are well behaved and are clearly supported by staff to develop good levels of self control and good problem solving skills. The adults know each individual child well and have a clear understanding of what may cause behaviour problems at different ages. Children's behaviour is managed with the effective use of positive strategies that are suitable for the children's ages and levels of understanding, that meet children's individual needs and are consistently applied.

Children take part in a range of activities that support them to gain an understanding of different cultures and religions and of the wider world. The children have books, puzzles, dressing up and role play resources that positively reflect people from different cultures. The children celebrate a range of different festivals throughout the year and most recently the children have celebrated Chinese New Year.

Partnership with parents is good; there are effective systems to ensure that all parents know how their children are progressing and developing and have information about the nursery and access to policies and procedures.

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children play in a well organised space with good levels of adult support. Adults are well deployed which clearly supports the children to develop confidence with good levels of safety.

The nursery have a good range of policies and procedures which are effectively put into practise to best support the children's care and education. Staff are all effectively vetted through the nursery's system and all records are present, up to date and shared with parents as required.

Leadership and management are good; the manager is working with the staff team to build skills and training programmes are in place. The staff have a sound understanding of the Early Years curriculum and are able to answer questions about policies and procedures and daily routines. There are regular team meetings, an appraisal system and an effective system for the induction of new staff. The current staff are working to continuously improve and develop the quality of their care and education for the children. The manager has taken advice from the advisory teacher which has help to develop an effective planning system with good procedures for individual observations that inform the next steps for children.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides care and education.

Improvements since the last inspection

The nursery have developed good behaviour management strategies that ensure that children's behaviour is managed in a positive, consistent manner that values good behaviour and is appropriate to their age and level of understanding. Staff are taking part in an ongoing programme of training for dealing with child protection; staff show clear understanding of roles and responsibilities. At the induction the manager takes information from parents about any dietary needs a child may have. The meals cooked are mainly vegetarian and parents are informed of this when they register. Meals and snacks well balanced and nutritious. The pre-school rooms have been re-organised to allow children to have free flow of all rooms on their floor; the children can move freely from room to room and access the activities in each room. There are good lines of communication for staff and a system of recording any information to be passed on. The induction for parents allows them to view all the policies and procedures for the nursery and to have an understanding of the lines of communication. The special needs statement now meets requirements and is in line with current legislation; there are currently no children with special needs on roll.

Complaints 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 records may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

Concerns were raised on the 06/08/04; the concerns relate to four incidents of one child biting another child. The concerns relate to National Standards 2 - organisation, Standard 11 - behaviour management and Standard 12 - working partnership with parent/carers. Ofsted inspectors made an unannounced visit on the 13/08/2004. No evidence was found that the National Standards had been breached. Recommendations were made to improve practice.

The provider remains qualified for registration.

Concerns were raised on 13/05/2005 the concerns relate to National Standard 7 (health and hygiene). The provider was asked to investigate and reply by letter which was received on 15/06/2005. An Ofsted Inspector made an unannounced visit to the nursery on 29/06/2005. The provider was interviewed and observations were made; no evidence was found that the National Standards had been breached.

The provider remains qualified for registration.

Concerns were raised on 17/11/2005; the concerns related to National Standard 11 (behaviour management). The registered provider was asked to respond to allegations of inappropriate behaviour management. The provider responded on 01/12/2005 to say that behaviour management had been discussed with all staff and

no evidence was found to support the allegations.

The provider remains qualified for registration.

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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):

- extend the interaction with under three year olds to ensure they are developing good communication skills
- review pre-school lunch time to ensure children are developing independence through choice

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):

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