



Quality Kidz Nurseries Limited

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY285259
Inspection date	12 December 2005
Inspector	Christine Eglinton
Setting Address	30 Keppel Road, Dagenham, Essex, RM9 5LT
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Registered person	Quality Kidz Nurseries Limited
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Quality Kidz Nurseries Limited is a privately owned nursery and is one of two nurseries owned by Quality Kidz. It opened in 2004 and is situated in a residential area of Dagenham. A maximum of 21 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 to 18:30 all year round and children can attend for a variety of sessions. Children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 25 children aged from 3 months to under 2 years on roll. Children come from the local area. The nursery has experience of supporting children with

special educational needs.

The nursery employs ten members of staff, eight of whom, including the manager, hold appropriate Early Years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's good health is promoted through effective procedures and staff's good hygiene practices. Children benefit from playing in a clean environment with clean and well-maintained toys and equipment. Effective procedures, such as consistent wearing of disposable gloves and aprons for nappy changing, sustain high levels of hygiene and help prevent the spread of infection. From their early age children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through effective daily routines: they wash their hands before meals and after visiting the toilet. Babies and toddlers have their own bedding which is cleaned regularly to help prevent the risk of cross infection.

A suitable ratio of staff hold a current first aid certificate. This enables children to be given appropriate care if there is an accident. Parents give prior written consent to administer medication, which ensures children receive the correct dosage. Children who are infectious do not attend. Thus spread of contagious ailments is prevented.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. They enjoy nutritiously balanced meals that are cooked on the premises. Staff gather all relevant information regarding diet and medical history, and babies' bottles and food provided by the parents is clearly marked. This ensures children's individual dietary and medical needs are met. Staff follow babies' individual routines initially, that is when they begin attending the nursery. This ensures continuity of care and contributes to their physical well-being. Staff monitor food intake and nappy changes to ensure babies remain healthy.

Babies and toddlers receive a lot of warmth and affection, which supports their emotional well-being, and gives them confidence to explore new experiences. Staff hold babies in their arms whilst bottle feeding. However, arrangements for bottle feeding and some care and nappy changing routines are not offering children consistency of care by the same key person. Consequently, babies and toddlers are not benefiting from warm intimate care routines that would offer security and promote healthy dependence.

Babies and toddlers are learning to control their own body, and are gaining physical skills appropriate to their stage of development. Staff encourage babies to crawl towards their toys, and toddlers enjoy a good range of outdoor activities which contribute towards their good health, and help them develop good control of their bodies. For example, they have great fun crawling through a caterpillar tunnel, manoeuvring cars backwards and forwards with their feet, and marching in time to music in the garden.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Babies and toddlers benefit from playing in a welcoming and suitably organised environment which enables them to move around safely and freely. Children use a suitable range of toys and resources which are appropriate to their age and stage of development. For example, toddlers enjoy playing with cause-and-effect toys, such as pressing buttons or pulling levers to make noises, and pressing boxes to see what is inside. A lot of toys are stored in low-level open-shelf units enabling babies and toddlers to begin to develop their own preferences and make choices for themselves. Babies enjoy sitting supported in large baby rings and grabbing objects dangling from baby gyms. They are able to sit on soft bean bags located around the room, but are not able to sit quietly and relax in a space with inviting surfaces, where they would be able to find comfort with staff or be with other familiar children. This does not enable them to benefit from snuggling in with a variety of objects in a safe and trusting place.

Toys and resources are carefully selected to ensure they remain safe and suitable for children. Staff carry out risk assessments to minimise the hazards and ensure the safety of the children. Appropriate staff deployment helps to ensure children are suitably supervised, and children benefit from a good range of safety measures. For instance, electric sockets are not accessible to children, and safety gates are fitted across the kitchen entrance and entrance leading into the lobby area. However, staff are not using gentle reminders to help toddlers learn about safety within the nursery. For example, staff are not encouraging children to learn simple rules, such as no running inside the nursery.

Staff have sound knowledge of child protection issues. However, they are not always following the appropriate procedure in case a child arrives at the nursery with an existing injury. This does not help to promote and safeguard children's welfare within the setting.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Babies and young children gain much from being together. They are developing good relationships and enjoy cuddling each other. They confidently approach staff for support and cuddles indicating trusting relationships have been built. Young children are able to make themselves understood through their actions. For example, staff talk to children about choosing a book after observing children pointing to the books. Adults explain to children what they are doing when they close the pages of a book to help young children link words with actions.

Babies and toddlers enjoy repetition in their movement: they sing along to action songs, and peek-a-boo games help babies connect actions and ideas. Toddlers enjoy listening to stories, which helps them learn about the meaning of words. Babies are encouraged to feed themselves during meal times, and toddlers are encouraged to take responsibility for washing and drying their own hands. This helps young children to become independent.

Activities engage children's interests and they enjoy playing with a variety of resources such as sand, corn flour, painting and sticking. However, the organisation of creative activities is not offering young children sufficient opportunities for repetition in their play. This does not enable young children to practice their skills and consolidate what they have learned. There are limited opportunities for young children to regularly have access to a wide range of sensory experiences in line with practice set out by using the Birth to Three framework.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff have a positive attitude towards diversity. Young children are helped to become aware of their own and other cultures through a range of visual pictures displayed within the environment, and through toys, resources, and planned activities as they celebrate a variety of cultural festivals. Constant praise and encouragement, and photos displayed of babies and toddlers within their eye level, helps young children to develop a positive self-image.

When staff playfully point to babies' eyes, fingers, and toes, babies are helped to recognise their own identity and to learn that they are independent and different from each other. Babies are able to bring their own dummies and comforters to the nursery. This helps them develop a sense of belonging.

Staff set clear and consistent boundaries which encourage young children to discover boundary limits and learn about rules. There are good systems in place to support children with special needs. For instance, staff have liaised with appropriate outside agencies to loan special play materials, and to ensure play materials are tailored for meeting individual needs.

Children are encouraged to greet and say good bye to parents, which helps to develop secure and trusting relationships. Parents provide appropriate and relevant information about their child's medical and dietary needs to the staff. This helps to ensure children receive individual care and attention. Staff complete a daily information sheet for parents of babies, which gives parents information about their child's food intake, nappies, and sleep. This helps to provide children with consistent care between home and nursery. Parents are given clear information about the nursery through the prospectus and newsletters, and there are formal opportunities for parents to meet with staff to discuss their child's progress twice a year.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The nursery meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Children benefit from being cared for by qualified staff who have suitable knowledge and understanding of child development. This enables staff to meet children's needs appropriately. Staff deployment ensures children are appropriately supervised at all

times.

Staff work well as a team due to being clear about their roles and responsibilities. Management encourage staff to undertake relevant trainings which support staff in their role and ensure they have the latest and most relevant information available. There are clear aims for the provision and staff are made aware of these during regular staff meetings. Management and staff use the self evaluation schedule positively to help them identify areas of improvement.

Information kept about the children is relevant and helps to promote their welfare. Most required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being are in place. However, the accident record is not being consistently signed by parents, which does not guarantee that parents are being kept informed of relevant events.

Improvements since the last inspection

'not applicable'

Complaints since the last inspection

Ofsted has received one complaint since the group were registered relating to National Standards 12 partnership with parents and National Standards 14 Documentation. The complaint related to keeping records of authorised people allowed to collect children. The provider was sent a letter detailing the nature of the complaint and was advised that this would be discussed at the next inspection. Ofsted found no evidence during the inspection that the provider was not complying with the national standards. Ofsted has taken no further action and the provider remains qualified for registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by the parents, which they must see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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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):

- make sure that nappy changing, bottle feeding and other care routines are offering children consistency of contact with a key person to support children's emotional well-being
- improve child protection procedures for recording existing injuries in line with local child protection procedures
- improve the range of sensory experiences for younger children in line with practice set out by using the Birth to three framework
- make sure the accident record is being consistently signed by parents, and amend the complaints procedure in line with regulations

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