



Scallywags Parent Run Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY302659
Inspection date	23 January 2006
Inspector	Vivienne Rose
Setting Address	The Canal Club, Wellington Estate Community Hall, Waterloo Gardens, London, E2 9HP
Telephone number	020 8980 3666
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Registered person	Scallywags Parent Run Nursery
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Sessional 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

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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?

Scallywags Parent Run Nursery opened in 2005 and operates from two rooms in a refurbished building. It is situated in Bethnal Green in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. A maximum of 16 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 09.30 to 13.00 for 43 weeks of the year. There is no outdoor area in use at the moment.

There are currently 11 children aged from 2 to 3 years on roll. Of these none receive funding for nursery education. Children come from wide catchment area, as most of their parents travel in to work in or around the area. The nursery currently supports a

number of children who speak English as and additional language.

The nursery employs two members of staff. Two of the staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

The nursery is managed by parents. They work alongside staff on a rota system to support the group on daily basis. The setting re-opened in January 2006 after several months of closure.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Satisfactory daily routines take place and children are encouraged to wash their hands after visiting the toilet and before eating. However, staff do not discuss why this process takes place and the risk of passing on germs. Parents give prior written permission to administer medication and all accidents are recorded effectively to ensure the children's well-being. There are sufficient qualified staff that hold relevant first aid qualifications, this ensures that children are well cared for should an accident occur. Good hygiene practice is followed by staff to minimise the risk of cross infection when nappies are changed.

The children enjoy varied nutritional meals as they attend over the lunch hour. These meals are provided by and prepared by parents on a rota system. The committee provides guidelines for meals that give the children opportunities to develop their likes and dislikes. Parents provide a variety of nutritious meals for example, pasta with cheese and olives. However, at present there is no one person on site who has a basic hygiene course to ensure that these meals are prepared and served to meet the requirements of environmental health. This means that children are at risk.

Because staff and parents on rota are aware of the children's dietary and medical needs children's individual needs are well met. Warm trusting relationships ensure that young children feel secure. Staff are aware of the Birth to three matters programme. This is being implemented gradually as children become more settled in the nursery environment.

Children have the opportunity to play on large physical equipment during the session which promotes their physical strength and helps them develop their confidence, independence and choice. Children regularly use range of small tools when playing with the play dough.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from playing in a spacious environment. This allows them to move around safely. An effective key work system ensures that children develop a sense of security. Children's risk of accidental injury can be compromised when staff

supervision is often not fully effective. The lack of staff supervision when children use the climbing frame, coupled with staff's routines for cleaning whilst children are present, compromises children's safety.

Staff are intending to carry out risk assessments on regular a basis. Children are protected because there are procedures in place for emergency evacuation, however, staff are yet to practise this with the children. There is a clear procedure should the children become lost, however, the procedure for outings lacks sufficient detail to ensure the safety of children.

Soft furnishings and low level furniture means that children can move around safely and with freedom to explore. Toys and resources are carefully selected to ensure they are suitable for children. However, staff do not regularly remind children about the rules of keeping safe when they climb on the large apparatus. There are effective procedures in place for the safe arrival and departure of children.

Most staff are aware of child protection policies and understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from playing in a homely environment, where there is strong parent participation. The children are mainly under 3 years and learn much from being together. They receive lots of attention from the adults which increases their sense of well-being. They learn to communicate and develop good relationships with each other and with adults; this encourages their independence. Children are able to make themselves understood through language and actions. Children have satisfactory opportunities to develop their creative play, to make connections and represent their own ideas. They enjoy playing with sand, cutting, drawing and playing with dough and driving their vehicles in the paint to make patterns.

Staff are implementing the Birth to three matters framework to support the children's leaning and development. This includes recording and observing their play to ensure that activities meet the children's individual needs appropriately.

Good quality stimulating toys are available throughout the setting. Activities are planned to provide a good balance to ensure that children have fun and are challenged. Children concentrate well when they listen to stories and become engrossed in small world play. Staff have a secure knowledge of how children learn and they support children well when they ask open-ended questions.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children feel good about themselves and they demonstrate independence. Staff treat children with respect and give them lots of praise and encouragement to support their self-esteem. There are a range of resources which provide children with a positive

outlook on the wider world, including posters and books and role play materials. Staff ensure that they know about children's needs with regard to religion or culture so that they can help the child acknowledge their own and other's backgrounds to see that this is important.

There are currently no children with special needs on roll. The setting has a comprehensive policy in place to support children's needs. Staff have a satisfactory understanding of the code of practice for children with special needs and children with special needs are welcomed in the nursery. Children benefit from staff who are actively seeking to be pro-active in providing an inclusive environment. This is being developed by seeking the support of the early year's inclusion officer. There are fewer opportunities for the children to access resources which reflect disability.

Partnership with parents and carers is good. The relationships with parents and staff are friendly and supportive; this contributes to children's well-being. Parents receive information about the setting and its policies and procedures. They are fully involved in the management and organisation of the group. Staff gather information about the child before they enter the nursery, to support continuity of care. They have informal discussions with parents about children's progress.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The premises layout is appropriately organised. Children are able to access a good variety of indoor play including a well structured physical play time during each session. Staff are beginning to record information on children's developmental progress and plan according to their individual needs. Outdoor play is featured less well on planning as the outdoor area is in need of refurbishment. Children sometimes visit the local park and outdoor play areas, but this is mainly in the summer months.

The person in charge has a Level Three qualification. She has regularly updated her knowledge by attending relevant childcare courses. This ensures that she has sufficient knowledge of current child care practices to support the care and learning of the children.

Management actively encourage the staff to undertake relevant training. This helps support the children within the setting. Children receive good support from caring adults who know them well. However, the lack of supervision of those working with children prior to confirmation of their suitability puts children at risk.

The setting has clear aims and objectives with regard to the responsibilities of the parental management structure. Most of the documentation required for the safe and effective management of the nursery is in place. However, these policies and procedures lack clarity and organisation and this leads to inconsistencies. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints 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 satisfactory. 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):

- meet the requirements of the environmental health officer regarding the preparation and storage of children's food
- ensure that temperatures within the environment are maintained to support the comfort and well-being of the children
- ensure that children are safely supervised when accessing large physical play equipment.
- ensure that all those working with children, prior to confirmation of their suitability, are supervised appropriately
- ensure that all policies and procedures are updated, comprehensively maintained and available for inspection at all times

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