



# 1st Class Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

**Unique Reference Number** 310281  
**Inspection date** 20 June 2005  
**Inspector** Michele Anne Villiers

**Setting Address** 2 Lordsgate Lane, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L40 7ST

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**Registered person** 1st Class Nursery 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](http://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?

1st Class Nursery opened in 2001. It is situated on the outskirts of Burscough village, close to Ormskirk. The nursery is registered to care for a maximum of 28 children under 3 years. There are currently 24 children on roll. The nursery supports children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery is open from 08:00 to 17:45, Monday to Friday, all year round, and children attend for a variety of sessions. It operates from a bungalow and is divided into four base rooms. There is an enclosed outdoor play area at the rear of the building.

There are 9 full-time staff nursery staff, all appropriately qualified, plus a cook, cleaner and secretary. The provider holds a Certificate of Education in Early Years.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through the daily routine. They are encouraged to wash their hands before and after meals and after using the toilet and staff talk to them about washing the germs away. Staff are proactive in minimising cross infection. They wear protective clothing when changing nappies and ensure that tables, equipment and resources are clean and well-maintained. Children have individual hand towels and babies have their own bed sheets. Children's health is protected by an effective sickness and exclusion policy and appropriate documentation is in place for the recording of accidents and the administration of medication.

Children have access to a range of resources, both indoors and outside, to foster their physical development and contribute to their good health. They enjoy a range of outdoor resources, including a small climbing frame, slide, swing, large sand pit, water play and several wheeled toys. Children also enjoy energetic play, such as music and movement, helping to develop their stamina and co-ordination.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. Many meals are home made, with fresh produce, and fruit is provided every week. Children have access to drinks throughout the day, with an emphasis on drinking water and milk rather than fruit juice, in order to minimise tooth decay.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children play in a safe and secure environment, that is welcoming and well organised. A risk assessment is conducted thoroughly each day and staff supervise the children well, in small groupings. Children move around the play-rooms, free from potential hazards, to access different activities and toys. Resources are good quality and appropriate for the children's developmental stages. Babies crawl safely on soft matting and have many toys, including sensory play nests and activity mats.

Children learn to understand the importance of safety as staff explain simple rules, like holding hands to go outside and being careful on the climbing frame. During hot weather children wear sun cream and sun hats and play under the shade of a large tree.

The children's welfare is safeguarded as staff have a good understanding of their role and responsibility in child protection. The manager ensures that the child protection policy and procedure is kept up to date and that all staff are knowledgeable about protecting children from harm.

## **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are confident in their relationships with staff, initiating interaction and conversation. Their self-esteem is fostered through good support from staff, motivating the children to learn and be independent. Children chat to staff throughout the daily routine and staff use good questioning, to encourage their language development. The good use of the 'Birth to Three Matters' framework enables children's physical, intellectual, emotional and social development to be well supported.

Babies feel secure and well cared for with good key-worker support. Babies babble and chuckle and respond to staff who use good voice intonation and facial expressions, helping children to learn early communication skills. They lie on multi-sensory mats and baby gyms. Mobile babies explore their environment, enjoying the many tactile and interactive musical resources. They smile at their image in the large mirror and help themselves to toys from the treasure basket.

Children have fun playing in the sand and on the bikes outside. They run around making up their own games and take turns. Indoors they enjoy using a range of resources such as puzzles, small world toys and construction. Children use their imagination in the home corner, as they dress up and make drinks. They explore with paint, using and mixing different colours. However, many displayed freezes are adult directed templates with little representation of the children's own ideas and interpretation, to further enhance their imagination.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children are happy and respond well because staff value and respect their individuality. The children's needs are met through a comprehensive settling-in system and on-going monitoring of the children's development. Children learn to respect each other and are encouraged to join in all activities. Well planned activities help to raise children's awareness of different cultures, such as Chinese New Year. However, there are few resources reflecting positive images of culture, gender and disability.

Children behave well and respond eagerly to simple instructions. They learn to share and take turns and their good behaviour is reinforced through plenty of praise and encouragement. Staff increase children's understanding of right and wrong by encouraging them to take responsibility for their own behaviour with gentle reminders such as, 'if you run you may fall and hurt yourself'.

Children benefit from the positive relationship staff form with parents. The good settling in procedure enables information to be shared about children's individual needs. Parents chat to key-workers and access children's portfolios to keep up-to-date with their child's development and progress. Parental contribution is very much welcomed and more formal parent meetings are organised annually.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from well qualified staff who use their knowledge and skills to provide interesting and stimulating activities. All staff are qualified to National Vocational Qualification Level 2 or 3 or equivalent and three staff hold current first aid certificates. Staff are encouraged to access further training courses and have implemented the 'Birth to three matters' framework to promote the children's development in all areas of learning. Children are well protected as good procedures are in place, ensuring all staff are vetted. New staff follow a comprehensive induction programme, over a period of three months, covering all policies and procedures in depth, and all staff have designated roles of responsibility.

Children are well cared for, in appropriate groupings with key-workers, helping them to feel secure and confident. The premises are well organised to maximise play space for children and create a welcoming environment, and children are well supported with staffing levels being maintained at all times. All legally required documentation, which contributes to children's safety and well-being, is in place and regularly reviewed. Overall the needs of the range of children who attend are met.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

The previous inspection recommended that the nursery assess the hazard of children's bags left unattended on the foyer floor and to ensure privacy and confidentiality within the base rooms when displaying information on the notice boards.

The nursery have now installed benches with storage units for children's bags. Children can now freely move through the area without risk of tripping over. Privacy and confidentiality is now maintained as staff no longer use the notice boards to share information about individual children.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

## **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.
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<b>WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?</b>
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### **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):

- encourage children to express their own ideas, thoughts and imagination during creative activities such as painting, collage and drawing
- continue to increase resources that reflect positive images of culture, gender and disability.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)