



Rainbow Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY315014
Inspection date	20 April 2006
Inspector	Hilary Mary Mckenning
Setting Address	152 Wakefield Road, Ossett, West Yorkshire, WF5 9AQ
Telephone number	01924 277260
E-mail	rcc_int@yahoo.co.uk
Registered person	Anita Wicks
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?

Rainbow Childcare has been registered since 2005 and is privately owned. The nursery is situated in Ossett, near Wakefield. The owner also operates another nursery in the vicinity, which has been in operation for 19 years. They offer care for a maximum of 22 children under 3 years of age. The nursery is open Monday to Friday throughout the year from 07.30 to 18.00. There are currently 14 children attending on a part time basis.

Children are cared for in three rooms on the ground floor of the premises. There are also kitchen and bathroom facilities. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor

play area.

There are four members of staff working with the children, three of whom have appropriate early years qualifications. The other staff member is working towards a qualification. The nursery receives support from the Local Authority

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a varied selection of activities that contribute to their good health. Children are encouraged to enjoy the benefits of being out in the fresh air and good use is made of the outdoor play area. For example, a wide range of outdoor play resources help to promote physical activities. Younger children are provided with play resources that encourage their physical development, for example, hand and eye co-ordination, crawling and participating in simple games and action songs. They regularly access outdoor activities such as walks out in the local area. Children are introduced to the importance of being healthy through good hygiene procedures and consistent routines. This provides positive steps for good healthy practices which help to prevent cross infection. Effective procedures are in place for when children become ill and detailed recordings are up to date for accidents.

Nutritious food is provided and meal times are social occasions where children are given opportunities to enjoy their food and feed themselves. Written menus are shared with parents and take account of individual needs and the choices offered. The staff recognise when babies' and children's behaviour changes as they become hungry and tired. They respond to non-verbal signals from babies when they show signs of tiredness. Rest routines are incorporated into their day and children's individual needs are met.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Potential hazards are sufficiently well addressed in order to maintain a secure and safe environment both indoors and out. For example, the use of socket covers, smoke alarms and a fully enclosed outdoor play area means children can move around freely and safely. Risks of accidental injury to children are minimised because staff are vigilant and risk assessments are routinely completed. Appropriate fire precautions are in place, for example fire exits are clear of obstructions and fire evacuation plans are clearly displayed.

Good quality resources are easily accessed allowing children to make choices in a safe manner. The children's toys and equipment are carefully monitored to make sure they remain safe and appropriate for the children's ages and stages of development.

Most of the required procedures and documents are in place to ensure children's

welfare is promoted, although the provider does not have a copy of the local child protection procedures. Children are generally well protected as the staff have a reasonable understanding of their role and responsibilities with regards to child protection matters.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and secure because staff take time to get to know them and foster warm, trusting relationships. For example, lots of cuddles and smiles encourage babies to interact and communicate. Non-mobile babies are placed near to mobile babies and young children so that they interact by watching, making eye-contact and using gestures. Children receive appropriate levels of support from staff, who observe children and involve themselves in children's play. For example, they echo sounds made by a young child when using a toy telephone to speak to mummy. This helps children to be confident and to learn about words and their meaning.

Children explore activities such as water and sand play and find out what they can do with play dough. They enjoy pleasurable experiences as they laugh with delight when playing with the musical toys. However, there are no planned activities in place to ensure appropriate development based on individual needs. Staff listen and respond to babies' first attempts to communicate; for example, they provide opportunities for face to face interaction and reiterate babies' sounds and talk through their actions.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children and babies are valued and respected as individuals and treated with equal concern. This is due to the staff taking time to get to know the children. A variety of toys and resources are in place to highlight equal opportunities.

Close warm relationships are developed which encourages children and babies to express their feelings. Babies are encouraged to hold their bottles as they discover and learn about their bodies. Praise and encouragement is offered frequently to reassure and promote self esteem. For babies, eye and voice contact is used to help them understand expectations. Positive steps are taken to highlight the welfare and development of all children.

Parents are confident to approach staff and are kept generally informed about their child's care. However, information of children's achievements are not routinely shared with parents. The staff work in partnership with parents to ensure children's individual routines are followed. For example, children's feeding and sleeping patterns.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a homely environment where children are comfortable and settled. This means they can move around and explore freely. Staff work together as a team as they promote children's welfare, enabling them to participate actively within a safe environment. Children are supported by a good adult-child ratio to ensure they receive appropriate levels of care and attention. Appropriate recruitment procedures are in place to ensure children are cared for by suitably vetted adults.

Most documentation is in place and is stored securely. However not all is maintained to ensure confidentiality. Policies and procedures are in place to support children's welfare. There is a review process in place where these can be updated and shared with parents. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

not applicable

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 record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted. 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 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):

- obtain a copy of the local child protection procedures
- develop the range of planned activities and experiences for children, appropriate to their stages of development and their individual needs
- consider further ways to share information with parents about their child's experiences and achievements
- ensure required records are in place and kept to maintain confidentiality.

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