



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY225980

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 05/06/2003
Inspector Name Yvonne Campbell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Blaise Manor Acorns
Setting Address Henbury Hill House
College Park Drive
Henbury
Bristol
BS10 7AN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Acorns Nurseries Ltd

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Acorns Nurseries Ltd
Address 7 Park Grove
Cardiff
South Glamorgan
CF10 3BJ

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

Acorns Henbury Hill Nursery has been open since 2001. It is part of the Acorns chain of nurseries with the head office in Cardiff.

The nursery operates from a three storey converted listed building, and has panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. The opening times are Monday to Friday, from 8 am to 6pm all year round. The nursery offers both part time and full time places.

Registration is for no more than 70 children from birth to five years old. The younger children are cared for on the first floor. while the pre-school children have their main activity rooms on the ground floor. The second floor is used for administrative and staff purposes. There is no lift available for access to the upper floors.

Several of the staff hold level three qualifications. One member of staff is a trained midwife and another is a trained teacher, who provides the educational input for the older children. There are

no funded three or four-year-old children currently attending.

How good is the Day Care?

Acorns Henbury Hill Nursery provides satisfactory care for children.

Staff are well qualified, although not all staff have appropriate clearance to work with the children. They are appropriately deployed in most areas of the nursery. However, the adult to child ratios are not strictly maintained in the base rooms on the first floor. The premises are spacious and children have ample freedom of movement. There are several well equipped resource areas for older children on the ground floor, and children are generally involved in activities which effectively promote their development. There is a very good range of modern and attractive toys, equipment and furniture. Children make choices about their play materials, and they are fully occupied throughout the day. However, there are insufficient structured activities to challenge and support older children's learning and play.

The nursery staff are vigilant about issues of safety. There are good procedures in place for identifying hazards and monitoring acceptable risk. There is, however, no safety hand rail on the stairway leading to the first floor. Effective arrangements are

in place for first aid and a high number of staff have completed suitable courses. Children are quickly assessed and minor injuries are dealt with promptly. Meals are healthy and nutritious and comply with parental instruction. The nursery has an innovative system of colour coded plates for different types of meals which reduces the risk of a child being given food to which they are allergic. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and the policy is shared with parents. However, the procedures do not comply with the requirements of the Area Child Protection Committee.

Children behave well and are happy to comply with adult instructions.

The nursery works closely with parents and provides them with regular information about their children's development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There are no previous actions from the last inspection as this is the nursery's first inspection following registration.

What is being done well?

- - The premises are spacious and children have freedom of movement in all areas.
- - Resource areas are individually set out and are well equipped for each activity.
- - There is a very good range of toys, equipment and furniture,
- - Staff are vigilant about safety and have good procedures for identifying hazards and risks.
- - Meals are healthy and nutritious and comply with parental instructions.
- - The nursery works closely with parents and provides them with regular information.

What needs to be improved?

- - CRB clearance of all staff working with the children
- - adult to child ratio to be maintained at all times;
- - consider the safety arrangements for using the stairway to the first floor;
- - child protection policy to be reviewed and nursery procedures to be based on the Area Child Protection Committee procedures;
- - sufficient structured activities to support older children's learning and play.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
6	ensure that children are safe on the stairs.
3	ensure there are sufficient structured activities to challenge and support older children's learning and play.
1	ensure that there are suitable arrangements to protect children from persons who do not have CRB clearance.
2	ensure that the adult to child ratio is maintained in all areas.
13	ensure that the child protection procedure for the nursery complies with local ACPC procedures.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.