



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY291389

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/12/2004
Inspector Name Paula Durrant

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Bramingham Park Nursery
Setting Address 79 Lucas Gardens
Luton
Bedfordshire
LU3 4BG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Kidsunlimited Limited 2102771

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Kidsunlimited Limited
Address Westhead
10 West Street
Alderley Edge
Cheshire
SK9 7EG

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

Kids Unlimited at Bramingham Park opened in 2004. It operates from seven rooms in a purpose built building and is situated on the parameters of a residential area on the outskirts of the town of Luton. A maximum of 134 children attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:30 to 18:30 for 51 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 114 children from nought to eight years on roll, 45 of these receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area, as the nursery is located on the outskirts of town. The nursery currently supports a child with special needs, and there are systems in place to support children who speak English as an additional language.

A total of 32 staff work at the nursery, 21 of the staff have early years qualifications to level 2 or 3. Two staff members are working towards a recognised early years qualification. Staff receive support from an early years advisory teacher.

How good is the Day Care?

Kids Unlimited at Bramingham Park provides satisfactory care overall for young children.

The nursery has thorough written operational procedures, however significant changes to the organisational structure and philosophy of care has impacted on the smooth operation of the setting. New interior décor is minimalist. The rooms have specific colour bonds and the emphasis of provision is towards natural and real life objects. A majority of the age groups have benefited from the change, however the diversity of equipment and suitability of the environment for the younger babies has been affected. The youngest baby room is bright, stark and unwelcoming. Children have difficulty settling and sleep patterns are interrupted. Staff work hard to meet the individual care needs of the children, but are left with little time for purposeful play. Although activities are prepared they remain untouched.

The nursery has vigorous Health and Safety procedures in place. Senior staff monitor the security, safety and welfare of the children on the premises. Accidental injuries are notified to management. Records are monitored and link to risk assessment reviews. The nursery have an exceptional food programme which supports children's individual dietary needs well. The nursery welcomes all children,

although resources that promote positive images are limited.

Overall staff provide a range of developmental activities to support and extend learning. However, poor team work impedes on the quality of care provided. Staff are rigid in their duties. For example they sit at set activities, but do not respond to the child that requests a story to be read, although overall ratios are high. Staff oversee rather than interact in order to complete their tasks. Children know the daily routine well and behaviour is good.

The nursery has satisfactory relationships with parents. There are systems in place to support the exchange of information.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The nursery have a three tier management structure. The strong management team have effectively implemented the new organisational changes and are continuing to support their staff team in developing their styles of practice within the philosophy and structure of the Kids Unlimited protocols.
- The nursery have in place an exceptional food programme. Careful monitoring by company nutritionalists ensure children receive a well balanced and varied diet. Consideration is given to providing alternative provision in order to meet individual dietary needs. The cook, catering assistant and staff demonstrate a clear understanding and knowledge of maintaining parents wishes in relation to foods provided.
- Children are gently nurtured in learning socially acceptable behaviour from an early age. Children are supported to play together co-operatively, share and take turns where appropriate. Staff suitably implement the companies policy and are consistent in their messages to children.

What needs to be improved?

- the environment for young babies in order to promote a suitable area in which normal life experiences are maintained
- the monitoring of registers to ensure compliance to the standards
- the organisation and effectiveness of teamwork to ensure ratios are complied with and staff interaction and engagement with children is effective
- resources for the younger age group in addition to resources that promote positive images throughout the setting.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

Concerns were raised regarding Standard 1 (Suitability), Standard 2 (Organisation), Standard 4 (Physical Environment), Standard 6 (Safety) and Standard 7 (Health and Hygiene).

Ofsted investigated by carrying out an unannounced visit 19/08/2004.

The outcome of the visit was that a total of eleven actions were issued. One action under Standard 1 (Suitability), four actions under Standard 2 (Organisation), one under Standard 4 (Physical Environment), one under Standard 6 (Safety) and two under Standard 7 (Health and Hygiene). Ofsted has checked these actions and they have been met. The provider remains qualified for registration.

Concerns were raised regarding Standard 8 (Food and Drink) and Standard 12 (Working in Partnership with Parents and Carers).

Ofsted investigated by carrying out an unannounced visit on 04/10/04.

Two Actions under Standard 11 (Behaviour Management) and Standard 13 (Child Protection) and three Recommendations under Standard 2 (Organisation), Standard 8 (Food and Drink), Standard 12 (Working in Partnership with Parents and Carers) were issued following the visit. Ofsted has checked the actions and they have been met. The provider remains qualified for registration.

Concerns were raised relating to Standard 2 (Organisation) relating to the presence of suitable and qualified managers and deployment of staff.

Ofsted investigated by carrying out an unannounced visit on 14/10/04. Evidence found by Ofsted at that visit was sufficient to issue three Compliance notices relating to Standard 2 (Management and records) and Standard 14 (notifying Ofsted of significant incidents), with a further two actions relating to Standard 2 (records) and Standard 13 (Child Protection) issued following the visit. Ofsted made a further visit on 09/11/2004 to check that the Compliance notices had been met. The nursery had complied with the notices issued. The provider remains qualified for registration.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date
4	Demonstrate how you will complement the baby room with further soft furnishings in order to enhance the environment to enable a balance of normal life experiences.	25/02/2005

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure that registers are maintained in compliance with the standards and children who depart from the site to go to school are signed out on exiting the building.
2	Ensure management monitor and support staff in developing as a team in order to enable effective engagement with children whilst working within desired ratios.
5	Continue to develop resources for the younger children in addition to extending provision of positive images throughout the nursery.

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.