



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 135099

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/06/2004  
Inspector Name Arda Halls

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name St Stephen's Day Nursery  
Setting Address Essendine Road  
London  
W9 2LR

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Buffer Bear Limited 02893177

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Buffer Bear Limited  
Address The Hospitium  
Valpy Street  
Reading  
Berkshire  
RG1 1AR

## 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

St Stephen's Nursery has been operating since 1995. In 2000 Buffer Bears Limited took over the management of St Stephen's, at this point the nursery expanded and divided into the pre-school area and baby area.

The nursery has access to one large spacious hall area, three spacious additional rooms, separate baby area, combined office and waiting area, kitchen, parents room, laundry room, toilets with nappy changing area and staff toilets. There is also a large enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery serves the local and wider communities. Children attending represent the diversity of cultures of the families in the community of the W9 area.

There were 55 children in attendance on the day of inspection. This includes 3 funded three-year-old children and 4 funded four-year-olds. The nursery support a large number of children who have been identified as having special needs and children whose first language is not English.

The nursery opens 8.00 am to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday all year round with exception of Bank Holidays. The nursery offers full-time and part-time places.

Twenty-two full-time staff work with the children. All staff have Early Years qualifications. The nursery receives support from SENCO Co-ordinator and a training co-ordinator on site as well as one from the Early Years Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

The St. Stephens Day Nursery provides a good standard of care for children.

The nursery is well organised with a staff group with relevant qualifications, experience and skills. Space and resources are organised to meet the children's needs with effective organisational plans in all rooms. St. Stephens offers families a particularly warm and welcoming environment. The nursery has a good selection of toys and equipment creating a highly stimulating facility including materials to promote equality of opportunity. Records, policies and procedures are informative with an effective daily arrangement for sharing records with parents.

The children are safe and well cared for in the setting and on outings with effective practice for identifying risks and hazards, however there are minor identified safety issues. Health and hygiene is promoted with daily routines of hand washing, nappy

changing and a high level of awareness of protecting children from illness and infection. Nutritious snacks and meals are provided working closely with parents to ensure children's dietary needs are met. Staff are actively aware of the needs of all children understanding and valuing their differences. Steps are taken to promote the welfare of children with special needs including the use of private areas for parents and staff to discuss the development of their child. Staff have an understanding of child protection procedures and are able to deal with any concerns effectively.

The activities contribute to children's development with a stimulating range and balance of activities for children. A good selection of resources reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability which promotes the welfare and development of children with special needs. Good behaviour is valued with effective use of management strategies for all stages of development.

There is an effective partnership with parents ensuring children are looked after according to parents' wishes.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

The emergency evacuation procedure is in place in the baby room annex helping to ensure that in the event of an emergency evacuation of the premises is effective.

Staff have gained knowledge and understanding of Westminster's Area Child Protection procedure and know when to put this into practice.

#### **What is being done well?**

- There is a good selection of toys and equipment to meet needs of all children.
- The selection of resources to reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability ensures that children have access to a wide and stimulating range of materials.
- The staff's calm and patient handling of children at different stages of development provides a good role model and promotes positive behaviour within the nursery.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the safety of the toilet area.
- the safety of the floor with regard to the broken lino tiles in Pre-School area

#### **Outcome of the inspection**

Good

## **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 toilet areas are safe.
6	Ensure floor surface in Pre-School area is hygienic and does not pose a tripping hazard.

## **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.*