



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305146

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 17/06/2003
Inspector Name Susan Jane Bevan

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name Leapfrog Day Nursery (Northwich)
Setting Address Kingsmead Square
Northwich
CW9 8EG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name . Leapfrog Day Nurseries Ltd

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

Leapfrog Day Nursery opened in 2001. It operates from six rooms, in a single storey building situated within a new housing development. The nursery serves the local and surrounding areas. Leapfrog is registered to provide care for a maximum of 109 children aged from birth to under eight years, and of these, not more than 32 may be under two years. There are currently 175 children on roll. This includes 42 funded three year olds and 29 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently no children who have special needs and no children who speak English as an additional language. The group opens from Monday to Friday, all year around. Sessions are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. There are 35 staff, within the setting, of these there is a manager, administration assistant and full time cook, 21 full time and 11 part time staff work with the children. Fifteen have early year's qualifications. Twelve are currently on training programmes. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Leapfrog Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. The staff work well as a team. Regular team meetings, in house training and information made available to them ensures that all staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities. Staff develop good relationships with children and they in turn are very happy and settled. Space available is sufficient and used flexibly to enable children's needs to be met. Systems are in place for all hygienic procedures and most are maintained. Staff give priority to ensuring children are safe indoors and outdoors. Equipment is regularly checked and well maintained. The staff plan activities within each room and these are displayed for parents to see. Routines take into account rest, meals and play. The nursery provides a wide range stimulating play materials throughout the nursery, however, some items are not being used to their full potential. Activities provided encourage children's learning and independence. The nursery has good relationships with the parents. Information is shared both formally and informally. Parents receive a newsletter, regular open evenings, are asked to complete questionnaires and one to one with a staff member daily. Policies are discussed with parents during the first meetings, there is no system in place for parents to revisit these, this has been identified by management and procedures are to be devised.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the nursery agreed to check that all staff have completed

relevant clearances, maintain staffing ratios at the beginning of the day, check gas and electrical appliances and installations are safe and maintain more hygienic practices for serving snacks. All staff are required to complete relevant CRB forms, staff are deployed to ensure adequate ratios are maintained, evidence of appropriate testing checks are held at Head Office and hygienic practices regarding serving snacks has been addressed via staff training and observed during the inspection.

What is being done well?

good level of written information available. Systems in place for informing parents about the provision and children. (standard 12). effective systems in place for recording care issues. Equal Opportunities co coordinator employed. (standard 9). a wide range of stimulating play materials to encourage children's learning throughout the nursery. (standard 5). Planning in place is appropriate for varied ages providing children with range of valuable opportunities. (standard 3). security passes are issued to parents for the front door, password system in place for persons unknown who may collect, CCTV cameras in place in all rooms. (standard 6)

What needs to be improved?

recording regarding cleaning tasks needs to be maintained. any toys made available to children need to be complete.

Outcome of the inspection

Good

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
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The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
5	ensure complete activities are set out for children.
7	ensure all cleaning tasks sheets are maintained.

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.