



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY240219

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/08/2004
Inspector Name Mary Pratty

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Leap Frogs
Setting Address Marston Green Infants
Elm Farm Avenue
Marston Green
Birmingham
B37 7AA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Leap Frogs

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Leap Frogs
Address Elm Farm Avenue
Birmingham
West Midlands
B37 7AA

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

Leap Frogs operate a day nursery and out of school care from premises located on Marston Green Infant School campus. The nursery was taken over from the previous owner in April 2004 and the out of school provision has been registered since 2002. The nursery is situated in a single storey building with an enclosed outside play area. There are two playrooms and a baby unit, kitchen and staff facilities are available. Out of school care is provided from a dedicated playroom within the main school building and children have access to the schools, outdoor play facilities

There are currently 105 children aged from 6 months to 11 years on roll. Grant funded 3 and 4-year-olds are accepted. The provision currently supports children with special needs. Both full and part-time places are available.

The nursery opens five days a week, Monday to Friday 07:30 - 18:00 hrs, all year round. It is closed for statutory Bank Holidays. School holiday care operates from, 07:30 -18:00 hrs. The provision also caters for children before and after school in line with the nursery opening times. There are 11 child care staff employed. Of these 82% hold an early years and / or play work qualifications. Domestic staff are also employed.

The provision receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership. The out of school provision has recently gained a Level Three, Aiming High, Quality Award.

How good is the Day Care?

Leap Frogs provide satisfactory care for children. Staff have worked very hard since the transfer of ownership to improve the physical environment and working practises of the nursery. Although there is still scope to improve the outside area, used by nursery children.

The facilities for older children are child orientated and interesting. The range of resources throughout is varied and children have opportunities to make choices about their play and learning, encouraging decision-making and independence skills.

There are a wide range of policies and procedures in place to form the operational plan and staff are beginning to develop supportive relationships as they work together, to provide a warm, caring environment, where children move with

confidence. Good attention is paid to staff development. Staff have various opportunities to attend further training in order to enhance their skills. This should also enable them to take more individual responsibility for planning.

Overall, good attention is given to health and safety, although fire safety procedures need to be improved. Children learn about good hygiene practice through the daily routine. Meals are provided to take good account of individual dietary needs and preferences, however some attention is needed to ensure that menus are as balanced and nutritious as possible.

Children are provided with a range of experiences to support all aspects of development. They are given time to explore, investigate and play together. They have developed strong relationships with staff, who act as good role models by creating a friendly atmosphere where children are valued and listened to. This also encourages good behaviour.

Staff work with parents and other agencies to ensure that children with special needs are included. All children's individual needs are recognised and well supported.

Documentation for parents is comprehensive and there are regular opportunities for discussion and sharing information.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff pay good attention to the children's conversations. They use open questions to encourage the children to think about their responses and they make good use of practical experiences to reinforce learning.
- Strategies to manage behaviour are sensitive and stage appropriate. Staff are aware of the importance of providing consistent messages in order to help children understand expectations.
- Children's individual routines are given good attention, this is particularly important for the babies who are contented and secure.
- Partnership with parents is given high priority and parents are kept well informed about their children's care and progress. Parents are encouraged to share their views about the service and the settling in period for nursery children enables parents to spend time at the nursery with their children. This encourages children to be settled and happy to stay.

What needs to be improved?

- opportunities for nursery staff to be more involved in the planning of activities

- safety and play / learning opportunities in the outside, nursery play area
- fire safety
- accident recording
- opportunities for children to have access to fresh fruit, vegetables and milk.

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
7	Improve the detail included in accident records and ensure that all parents sign the records.
8	Review menus, to ensure that children have more opportunities to have nutritious meals and drinks.
3	Provide more opportunities for staff to play an active role in the planning of activities.
4	Develop and improve the outside play area used by the nursery children and provide a safe surface around the climbing frame.
6	Ensure that fire drills are carried out periodically.

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.