



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY290188

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 07/12/2004  
Inspector Name Jenny Kane

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Discovery Nursery LTD  
Setting Address Dover Discovery Centre  
Market Square  
Dover  
Kent  
CT16 1PH

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Discovery Nursery LTD

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Discovery Nursery LTD  
Address Dover Discovery Centre  
Market Square  
Dover  
Kent  
CT16 1PH

## 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

The Discovery Nursery was registered in June 2004. It is run by Discovery Nursery Limited. It operates from two rooms in the Dover Discovery Centre in the town centre. There is access to a fully enclosed outside play area. The group serves the local and surrounding area.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 18:00 all year round. Children attend on a sessional or full time basis.

There are currently 35 children on roll aged from 2 years to 5 years. Of these 22 children receive funding for nursery education. The group currently supports children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs five staff. Three of the staff hold appropriate early years childcare qualifications. Two staff are working towards qualification. All staff hold current first aid certificates.

The group receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). They are also members of the Pre-school Learning Alliance (PLA).

### How good is the Day Care?

The Discovery Nursery provides good quality care for children.

The staff work well together as a team under the leadership of the owner who also manages the group and works directly with the children. Staff have a good understanding of the national standards. There is a commitment to training and development with staff regularly attending courses. The policies and procedures have been updated and show clearly the service offered. However a modified version for parent's own use would be beneficial. The premises are bright with children's work displayed.

Children are cared for in a safe environment where staff are aware of their needs. Space is used well and defined to provide different play areas. There is a quiet area where children can relax and rest. However the area for wet play and eating meals is limited. Staff encourage children to have good personal hygiene and to take themselves to the toilet. Despite the lack of space staff manage to provide privacy

when changing children. At mealtimes staff sit with children to eat. A snack bar system for snack time works well and encourages children to be independent when pouring drinks and choosing food.

Children enjoy a range of interesting and stimulating play activities. All staff are involved in the planning which links to the foundation stage and the six areas of learning. There are good opportunities for children to choose activities and select play materials. All children are integrated into the nursery and staff are aware of meeting individual and special needs. There is a good supply of books, toys and resources which show positive images and a variety of festivals are celebrated. Staff and children have a good rapport and behaviour is well managed.

Relationships with parents are good. Staff are friendly, make parents welcome and key workers share information about progress and achievements. The manager is keen to work together with parents taking into account their views and opinions.

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

At the last inspection the group was asked to address a number of issues:

1) nappy changing and individual bedding.

The staff now pay attention to privacy when changing nappies and although there is not a great deal of space in the toilet area they manage adequately. There are no children who sleep during the day but a quiet area is available in the small room should a child need to rest. Should the need arise the parent would provide a blanket.

2) records for visitors.

All visitors are now asked to sign in and out using the visitors book.

3) appointed person for behaviour management.

One member of staff has taken on this role. She has recently completed an appropriate course and shares information with the rest of the staff.

4) review the policies so that they are in line with current guidance.

All the written information regarding procedures has been recently updated and all necessary policies are now in place.

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

- The staff work well together as a team, sharing tasks and duties. They are keen to develop their skills and attend workshops and training courses when possible.
- The premises are bright and welcoming, good use is made of the space and children's work is well displayed. Children are able to choose from the range

of toys and equipment, which are at child height.

- Children approach staff with confidence and have good relationships with them. Staff listen to children, join in with activities and are enthusiastic. As a result children's behaviour is good.
- Staff plan a range of interesting activities and encourage children to take an interest in other countries and cultures.
- Staff have good knowledge of special needs. The group works with other professionals and parents to meet the needs of all children.
- Partnership with parents is good and there is an effective two-way sharing of information between staff and parents.

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

- the provision of an area which is suitable for wet play and eating meals
- the entrance to the outdoor play area
- the modifying of the policies into a document for parents.

#### **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.)**

Since registration in June 2004 there have been no complaints regarding this provision.

#### **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
4	provide a larger area with washable flooring which is suitable for wet play

	and eating meals
6	ensure that children are safe when accessing the outdoor play area
12	review the prospectus to include a modified version of the policies which can be shared with parents

## **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.*