



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 136018

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/05/2003
Inspector Name Christine Mary Burridge

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Leapfrog Day Nursery (Emersons Green)
Setting Address St Lukes Close
Emersons Green
South Glos
BS16 7AL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Leapfrog Day Nurseries (Trading)Ltd 3229362

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Leapfrog Day Nurseries (Trading)Ltd
Address Central Office
Second Avenue, Centrum 100
Burton Upon Trent
STAFFS
DE14 2WF

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 April 2000. It is one of a chain of purpose built day nurseries. The ground floor play rooms are used for children under three and the upstairs play rooms are used for the older children; there is a sensory room on the ground floor that is available to all children and there are outside play areas. The nursery is situated in the middle of a large housing development in Emersons Green in South Gloucestershire and is close to a busy shopping centre and offices and serves a wide catchment area.

There are currently 200 children on role. This includes 23 funded three year olds and 17 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery supports children who have special needs and children who have English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round, including public holidays, from 7.00 until 19.00.

There are 32 members of staff and two supply staff who work with the children. This includes 18 staff who have early years qualifications and eight staff who are trainees. The nursery also employs a cook and an administrator.

The setting receives support from a teacher advisor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership(EYDCP).

The Nursery is an National Vocational Qualification(NVQ) training base and several staff are approved assessors. The nursery is also participating in the Quality Assurance Scheme for South Gloucestershire.

How good is the Day Care?

Leapfrog day nursery provides a satisfactory standard of care for children.

The nursery is bright and cheerful and appropriately maintained. Staff are warm and welcoming ensuring that children are cared for in a safe, secure environment. Children are grouped according to their age and the key worker system helps children build relationships so that they are happy and settled.

Staff are developing as a team and there is a good commitment to staff training. However the vetting procedures and the system to prevent staff who are not vetted

having unsupervised access to children is not effective.

There is an appropriate emphasis on ensuring children are kept safe. A co-ordinator is responsible for all aspects of health and safety, regularly arranging in house training to ensure that staff are kept up to date.

Activities are planned for each age group to provide children with a wide range of activities and experiences. There are established routines for babies and toddlers. Staff develop close relationships with the babies by spending a lot of time talking and playing with them.

Toddlers have an appropriate balance between free play and organised activities with the support of staff. All the younger children enjoy their time in the sensory room which is a particular feature of the nursery.

Activities for pre-school children are not always managed effectively, the large size of some groups sometimes leads to disruption and poor behaviour. Staff do not always have sufficient knowledge to supervise the use of the computer which prevents children developing their skills.

Staff have an appropriate knowledge of individual children's needs but they could build on their knowledge and understanding of equality issues to ensure the environment is inclusive.

Partnership with parents is good. They receive plenty of information through monthly newsletters, information on display and daily exchange of information. However some medical consent forms are missing.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has addressed most of the actions following the last inspection; they have provided additional training in house to cover a lot of the actions and base room practices. They particularly focused on planning, recording and induction. A member of staff has been appointed co-ordinator for behaviour management and there is a system in place for recording incidents. Additional resources have been purchased including multi cultural resources. The nursery is still working on the staff vetting procedure. The procedure for hygienic nappy changing is still not implemented by all staff.

What is being done well?

- Manager has a positive approach and is beginning to build an effective team; she encourages staff development and many staff are working towards a professional qualification.
- New staff and students on placement are inducted, they clearly understand policies and procedures for example what they are expected to do in an emergency.

- Safety is well managed. There is a designated health and safety co-ordinator who is responsible for risk assessments, ensuring systems run smoothly and procedures are effective. Staff have a good knowledge of evacuation procedures that are regularly practiced.
- Older children are encouraged to be independent. They confidently take messages between rooms and they are given the opportunity to make individual choices about activities in free play.
- Partnership with parents is good. Parents have access to plenty of written information in the monthly news letters and on display around the nursery. In addition to the daily exchange of information they are formally invited to parent evenings twice a year to discuss their children's progress.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements for vetting staff and the system for ensuring staff who are not vetted do not have unsupervised access to staff;
- the planning and organisation of activities particularly for pre-school;
- the arrangements for administration of medication;
- the consistency in management of children's behaviour;
- the knowledge and understanding of promoting equal opportunities.

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
1	ensure that there are effective systems in place to show that staff are appropriately vetted and ensure that staff who are not vetted do not have unsupervised access to children.	01/07/2003
14	ensure written consent is obtained for every child	01/07/2003

	who requires medication or medical treatment.	
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The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
3	ensure that activities particularly for the pre-school are appropriately planned and organised to provide children with effective support.
9	ensure all staff understand and are proactive in implementing equality of opportunity for all children.
11	ensure that all staff develop sufficient knowledge and ability to deal with challenging behaviour.

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.