



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127720

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/01/2005  
Inspector Name Mary Van De Peer

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Toad Hall Nursery  
Setting Address 83 St. Lukes Road  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME14 5AS

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Just Learning Ltd 2809756

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Just Learning Ltd  
Address 45 High Street  
West Malling  
ME19 6QH

## 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

Toad Hall Nursery is one of 64 nurseries owned by Just Learning Ltd. It opened in 1996. The nursery operates from the ground floor and lower ground floor of a large house in Maidstone. A maximum of 30 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 - 18:00 for 51 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 58 children aged from six months to under five years on roll. Of these, 16 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local area. The nursery currently supports 3 children with special needs and no children attend who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 11 staff. There are six staff, including the manager, who hold appropriate early years qualifications. There are four staff working towards a recognised child care qualification.

### How good is the Day Care?

Toad Hall Nursery (Just Learning Ltd.) provides good care for children.

The nursery is warm and welcoming to children and their parents. The procedure for appointing new staff is effective. Most of the staff have relevant qualifications, including first aid. They are also encouraged to attend further training to update their child care knowledge. The space, resources and staff are organised to help meet the children's needs effectively. However, the children would benefit from some of the storage of toys and resources being made more accessible for play. The nursery's operational plan is clear and user-friendly. It includes all relevant policies and procedures relating to the setting.

The areas used by the children are safe. Security is good and access to the nursery is monitored. Staff have regular health and safety training and carry out regular risk assessments. Minor changes are required to improve accident records. The nursery provides a nutritious and balanced meals and snacks menu. There are good procedures in place for an emergency evacuation.

The nursery has a wide range of quality toys and equipment which are suitable to children's age and development. Children's learning and development is progressing well. Children's behaviour is good and they are aware of the boundaries set by staff.

There are a number of children with special educational needs attending the nursery. Staff monitor their needs well.

The nursery's partnership with parents is very good. The key worker scheme operates effectively and helps to keep the communication with parents open. The information about the nursery and the children's progress and development is clear and available for parents to access. This is currently being reviewed and updated. There is a written contact between the nursery and each family.

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

Not applicable.

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

- The nursery is professional and ensures all documentation is well maintained and regularly updated. Parents are kept informed about their children's development and progress.
- There are effective procedures in place for staff training. This helps ensure children are cared for by well trained and experienced staff.
- The nursery has an extensive range of good quality toys, resources and equipment. These are used to plan appropriate activities to promote the children's development.
- The nursery ensures that the premises are safe and secure for children. The children practice evacuation procedures to enable them to leave the premises safely in an emergency.
- The staff use positive and consistent strategies to manage children's behaviour. Praise is given for good behaviour. Children feel secure and play within clear boundaries.
- The staff have good relationships with the children. They enjoy their company and know them well. They spend time talking and playing with them and helping them to learn. The children are happy and settled.
- The staff make very good use of the outdoor play area. Children explore and play outside on a daily basis. The children get plenty of fresh air.
- Good attention is given to Health and Safety. Appropriate hygiene practices are promoted with the children. They are encouraged to wash their hands regularly.
- There is a good partnership with parents. Relevant information on each child is shared and this helps to provide consistency of care.

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

- The accessibility of toys and resources by children, especially in the Toad's Room.

- The method used to record accidents.
- The resources and images reflecting disability.

**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.)**

There are no complaints to report.

**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
5	Provide children with better access to available toys and resources.
7	Consider recording accidents in a book format.
9	Review resources and images positively reflecting disability.

## **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.*