



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY281133

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	23/09/2004
Inspector Name	Kay Margaret Armstrong

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Brown Bear at The Mill
Setting Address	Unit CG2, Houldsworth Mill Houldsworth Street Stockport Cheshire SK5 6DA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Brown Bear Childcare Ltd. Ltd. Company 4606989
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Brown Bear Childcare Ltd.
Address	18 Douglas Road Hazel Grove Stockport Cheshire SK7 4JE

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

Brown Bear at The Mill, which is part of Brown Bear Childcare Limited, has been registered since February 2004. The nursery operates from a ground floor unit, within Houldsworth Mill, in the Reddish area of Stockport, which is close to shops, parks and the local library. The nursery serves families from the local area.

The nursery opens five days a week, all year round except for a week during the Christmas period and all Bank Holidays. Opening times are from 08:00 until 18:00. There are currently ten children on roll, who attend the nursery for a variety of sessions. The setting is validated to receive nursery education funding and currently there is one three year old child attending who is in receipt of this. The nursery supports children who speak English as a second language and is accessible to wheelchair users.

The children are grouped according to their ages and stages of development; they have access to three playrooms and a bathroom area. Outdoor play is provided by visits to local parks.

There are five staff who care for the children, all hold an early years qualification. The provision gains support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and is a member of the National Day Nursery Association and the Pre-School Network.

How good is the Day Care?

Brown Bear at The Mill provides a good quality of day care for children. The staff work together well as a team, developing positive relationships with children to help them feel safe and secure. The premises are well maintained with sufficient space for children to play and explore in comfort. Toys and equipment are well maintained and organised to meet children's needs effectively; some resources reflect our diverse society. However, resources are not yet fully developed. Babies have limited opportunities to explore natural materials. Most records and documentation are in place with minor omissions.

Staff are aware of potential hazards within the premises and there are procedures in place, which are implemented to ensure children's safety. Procedures and routines have been established to minimise the spread of infection. Staff support and encourage children to adopt good hygiene habits. Healthy nutritious meals and

snacks are provided to promote children's physical development and all dietary needs are discussed with parents and respected. Staff have satisfactory understanding and knowledge of policies and procedures relating to child protection, equal opportunities and the care of children with special needs.

A range of age appropriate activities are planned and implemented for the children promoting their learning and development in all areas. The children are occupied, eager to participate in the activities and are supported in making choices throughout the day. However the routines implemented at snack and lunch time limit the opportunity for children to develop self help skills and independence. Staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs and are skilful in managing behaviour in a positive manner.

Positive relationships have been formed with parents, good quality information is available for parents and systems in place to keep parents informed of their child's welfare.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff plan and implement activities that are interesting, enjoyable and promote children's learning. Children's understanding, knowledge, mathematical concepts and language is promoted and extended during play. For example, the children have the opportunity to, hold, touch, smell and taste a variety of fruit and vegetables; staff introduced words such as bitter, sweet and sour.
- Staff play and interact with the children, listening, talking and responding to them in a positive manner. The children are happy, confident and observed to be having fun as they play. The older children particularly enjoy making patterns with shaving foam and paint, talking about the texture and colour.
- The provision for babies is good. Staff support babies in exploring their surroundings, they encourage investigation of resources through play. Staff are aware of babies individual needs and preferences with regard to sleeping patterns and routines, which are respected. Staff speak to babies in warm tones, smile, maintain eye contact and offer reassurance and comfort through appropriate physical contact and cuddles.
- Children benefit from a positive, consistent approach to behaviour management. Staff speak calmly to the children and use distraction techniques effectively. Children are encouraged to share and take turns. Children's efforts and achievements are recognised, celebrated and praised appropriately developing their self-esteem and confidence.
- Resources are well maintained and stored at children's level, allowing children to make choices and develop their independence. Activities are displayed in a manner that invites investigation and exploration by the

children. Staff utilise local amenities to provide outdoor play for the children, promoting physical development and the opportunity to explore the world around them.

What needs to be improved?

- the snack and lunch time routine
- the documentation relating to child protection statement and consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment
- the resources

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	Continue to develop resources available to children, extend the range of toys and equipment that reflect positive images of diversity and provided resources in natural materials for babies.
7	Request written permission from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment.

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.