

Office for Standards in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 156518

DfES Number:

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/02/2005
Inspector Name	Alison Joan Wadley

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Regents Place Nursery
Setting Address	1 Triton Mall, Regents Place Longford Street London NW1 3FN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

Kidsunlimited Nurseries 2102771

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name

Kidsunlimited Nurseries

Address

Westhead 10 West Street Alderley Edge Cheshire SK9 7EG

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public that the nursery education for funded three and four year old children is of an acceptable quality. Inspection of nursery education also identifies strengths and weaknesses so that providers can improve the quality of educational provision and help children to achieve the early learning goals (elgs) by the end of the Foundation Stage. This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

If the setting has been inspected previously, an action plan will have been drawn up to tackle issues identified. This inspection, therefore, must also assess what progress has been made in the implementation of this plan.

Information about the setting

Regents Place nursery opened in 2001. It is run by Kids Unlimited who manage a number of nurseries throughout the country. It operates from three units on the ground floor within Triton Square Mall close to Warren Street and Euston. It serves both the local community and families working in the area.

There are currently 73 children from 0 to 4 years on roll. This includes 8 funded 3 and 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting does not currently care for any children with special needs but support a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week all year round. Sessions are from 07:15 until 18:00.

22 staff both full and part-time work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications.

INSPECTION OF THE NURSERY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR FUNDED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS.

How effective is the nursery education?

The children at Regents Place Nursery are making generally good progress.

The leadership and management of the nursery is generally good and managers show commitment to the improvement of the service for children's education. They regularly evaluate and discuss activities and written documents. Staff receive regular training and support through Kids Unlimited and the Local Authority to meet these aims.

The quality of teaching is generally good and at times very good. Staff work well as a team and demonstrate enthusiasm to supporting children's ongoing progress. Behaviour is well managed and staff encourage children's independence well. They provide a generally good selection of stimulating activities and make good use of local community activities. As a result the children are enthused and happy to be at the nursery. At times, however, there are inconsistencies in staff's questioning skills. Whilst staff know the children well informally, limited evaluative assessment has an impact on planning for children's individual needs and interests. This together with limitations in resources to support communication, language and literacy and technology prevents children from reaching their fullest potential in some areas.

The partnership with parents and carers is generally good and parents generally well informed of their children's progress. They are encouraged to view their children's work and discuss matters with their child's key worker. Parents are encouraged to join activities where possible particularly to support cultural celebrations.

What is being done well?

- Staff encourage children's confidence and independence managing their behaviour well.
- The nursery demonstrates a clear partnership with parents which supports children's continuity of learning.
- Staff make good use of local community activities.

What needs to be improved?

- more emphasis on evaluative assessment to support planning for children's individual interests and abilities.
- more encouragement for children to use books and varied technology to support their learning.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A- this is the first inspection.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in personal, social and emotional development is very good overall. They show increasing independence in selecting and carrying out activities and often initiate their own learning and interests. They talk freely about their home and community and have an increasing awareness of their own and others needs. Children behave well and concentration levels are good. They form good relationships with adults and peers and respond well to a range of experiences.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's progress in communication, language and literacy is generally good. They listen well to stories and discussions, give thoughtful response and show an increasing vocabulary. However, their use of books is not fully realised. They use talk increasingly to organise and explain their ideas. The children are learning to recognise rhymes and that print carries meaning. They are becoming confident in early writing skills but limited resources in some areas curbs their potential.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's progress in mathematics is generally good. They demonstrate an increasing ability to problem solve using the properties of shape, balance and buoyancy for example. They enjoy rhymes and sequence and are increasingly able to match and make patterns in relation to colour. Children show curiosity about numbers and often count. They record and calculate in relation to height and length when exploring objects but limited assessment prevents some from reaching their potential.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's progress in knowledge and understanding of the world is generally good. Children show interest in the world and are beginning to ask worthwhile questions and identify features which are important to them. They are increasingly aware of other cultures and religions. Children explore and investigate objects and materials, often building interesting models and pictures which explain their new found knowledge. There is limited use of technology to support their learning.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's progress in physical development is generally good. Children move freely with increasing confidence and handle tools and equipment with safety and increasing control to support activities such as drawing and cutting. The children demonstrate good levels of coordination in moving about the room and crawling into the home corner for example. They show a growing awareness of safety and of their own health. Limited assessments results in some lost potential.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's progress in creative development is generally good. The children respond well to a varied and sensory environment. They join in with singing and dancing, play out imaginative stories and paint and create art to express their feelings and ideas. Children have good opportunities to explore colour and sound making equipment, to taste and feel but some potential is lost due to limited assessment of their abilities.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. The next inspection will take place in three to four years time.

WHAT THE SETTING NEEDS TO DO NEXT: THE KEY ISSUES

- provide more emphasis on evaluative assessment to support planning for children's individual interests and abilities.
- encourage children to use more books and varied technology to support their learning.

The provider must draw up an action plan within 40 working days of receipt of this report showing how the key issues detailed above will be addressed. The action plan must be made available to all parents and to the Local Authority if required. An evaluation of the action taken will form part of the next inspection of funded nursery education.