



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY280060

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/01/2005
Inspector Name Verlyn Ulanda Blake

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name The Forum Nursery
Setting Address The Forum Centre, Forum Square
Civic Centre, Wythenshawe
Manchester
Lancashire
M22 5RX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Buffer Bear Ltd 2893177

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Buffer Bear Ltd
Address 7 Valpy Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 1AR

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

Buffer Bear Limited is a privately run company providing childcare across the country. Buffer Bear at Forum Nursery opened in June 2004. It is managed by Buffer Bear Ltd in partnership with City College. The nursery is located in Wythenshawe, Manchester close to a local market, shopping centre, police station, primary and high schools.

It is a purpose built building on one level, situated in the grounds of the Forum complex. It serves the local community and has allocated places for the Forum and local colleges. There is a fully enclosed play area available for outdoor play.

The nursery is open from 08:00 to 18:00, Monday to Friday and facilities on a Saturday are also available. The provision is opened all year with the exception of Bank holidays.

There are 42 children on roll who attend on a full time and part time basis. The nursery supports children with English as an additional language.

The nursery has four play rooms, two nappy change areas, 12 children's toilets and a milk preparation area. Additional rooms include an office, staff room, kitchen, laundry, staff and disabled toilets.

There are 15 care staff who work with the children. The manager and the deputy manager are supernumery and both hold a suitable childcare qualification. Seven staff have a level three qualification, two staff have a level two qualification and are working towards a level three and four staff are working towards a level two childcare qualification.

The nursery receives support from Buffer Bears limited and from Manchester Early Years and Play department.

How good is the Day Care?

The Forum Nursery provides good quality care for children. There are good staff-to-child ratios in place. The premises are safe and secure. Staff exercise good practices to ensure the premises are kept clean in line with nursery policy. There is a good range of activities available for children's play. Furniture and equipment are of good design and condition. All relevant policies and procedures are in place and staff have a good working knowledge of them.

Good safety is promoted throughout the setting, however fire safety recommendations are at times compromised, and the temperature in parts of the nursery is not always maintained at an adequate temperature. Good attention is paid to health and hygiene both in the staff's good practice when serving food, cleaning tables and in staff's encouragement to children of good personal hygiene and independence. Children are provided with nutritious meals and fruit snack during the sessions. However mealtimes are not always appropriately organised. Staff have a good understanding of their duties with regards to child protection issues.

Children enjoy the activities available to them. They have good access to a wide range of resources for play. Children relate well to staff often asking for cuddles to which staff responds appropriately. Resources and artefacts reflect and promote good anti-discriminatory practice. Staff are good role-models for children and use praise and encouragement well to support good behaviour. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of the individual needs of each child and work well with children who have English as an additional language.

Staff work well with parents and engage well in informal discussions at the end of each session, as well as providing parents with good written information about the care and learning their children will receive during session time. Time is spent with parents on a one-to-one basis to improve staff's understanding of the individual needs of their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Children have an excellent range of easily accessible resources and equipment for both indoor and outdoor play. Children happily choose from the range of play materials stored at low level and clearly labelled. Staff play with children at their level, supporting them, asking them questions to make them think.
- Staff interaction with children is positive. Staff value children and their individual development. Their effective use of praise and encouragement improves children's self-esteem and confidence.
- Children of all ages across the nursery are encouraged to develop independence skills. Children are observed self selecting resources, using the bathroom independently, pouring their own water from the jugs available within the room. All children within the nursery are aged two years and under.
- Effective induction procedures are completed with all staff with mechanisms for ongoing reviews built in. Staff demonstrate a commitment to attending further training sessions to improve their knowledge and skills of working with children and meeting their individual needs appropriately.

What needs to be improved?

- the obstruction to fire exits
- the organisation of mealtimes
- the maintenance of an appropriate temperature within the nursery.

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
4	Ensure that the premises particularly the Paddington room are maintained at an adequate and comfortable temperature.
6	Ensure that fire exits are unobstructed at all times.
8	Review the organisation of mealtimes.

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.