



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 256850

DfES Number: 519070

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/03/2004  
Inspector Name Carly Louise Thrower

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Kidsunlimited Woodlands Nursery  
Setting Address Woodlands Nursery, Thorpe Wood  
Peterborough  
Cambridgeshire  
PE3 6HN

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Kids of Wilmslow Ltd, Westhead

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Kids of Wilmslow Ltd, Westhead  
Address 10 West Street  
Alderley Edge  
Cheshire  
SK9 7EG

## ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care in accordance with the National Standards for Under Eights Day Care and Childminding; and 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

Kids Unlimited Day Nursery operates from a purpose built premises situated on a large business park in the city of Peterborough. Kids Unlimited serves the whole of the city and beyond.

There are currently 75 children on roll. This includes 9 funded 3 year olds and 5 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. At present the setting does not support any children with special needs and only one child who speaks English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week for fifty two weeks of the year excluding bank holidays. Opening hours are from 08:00am to 18:00pm with funded sessions each morning and afternoon.

Eighteen part-time/full-time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. Several staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

The setting receives support from an Early Years Pedagogical worker and a childcare advisor from the local EYDCP.

### How good is the Day Care?

Kidsunlimited Woodlands Nursery is providing good care for children. Good use is made of staff, space and other resources which enables children to feel safe and secure in their environment. Rooms are organised well and children are able to move about freely. They make good progress in their development through participating in a range of well planned and meaningful activities. Children throughout the nursery demonstrate a warm relationship with all staff and enjoy their play.

Children's behaviour is good. Staff present clear behaviour boundaries which children know and respect and apply behaviour management techniques appropriate

to the ages and development of the children. However, staff should ensure they are kept regularly updated in behaviour management issues. Children are provided with a variety of nutritious snacks and meals and careful consideration is given to food preparation and cooking activities due to children attending the nursery with severe allergies. Personal hygiene is encouraged through routine activities and staff are good role models.

An interesting environment is provided both inside and outside the nursery especially the pre-school outdoor play area which is used positively by staff as an extension of indoors. A good range of stimulating toys and play equipment, including toys which reflect equal opportunity principles, maintain children's interest and support their learning. Children are given individual attention and their needs are met.

Positive, friendly informal relationships exist with all parents. Parents are kept well informed of their child's developmental progress and express their satisfaction at the care being offered. However, there is an insufficient home link between staff and parents of under 3's regarding continuation of activities and routines at home such as potty training. All documentation is very well maintained.

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

At the transitional inspection staff were asked to ensure drinking water was available at all times for all age groups, consolidate storage to enable a more appropriate use of the play space for children's play, increase opportunities for children to participate in imaginative and role play, ensure minimum staffing ratios were maintained at all times and implement a child protection policy. All these procedures were to be shared with parents.

Fresh drinking water is now available at all times throughout the nursery and pre-school children are able to help themselves. The pre-school has now been arranged into one big area with more play space for children. There is now a large home corner in this area which allows children to participate in imaginative and role play situations such as a shop or post office. Minimum staffing ratios are applied at all times throughout the nursery and were correct on the day of the inspection. A child protection policy has been implemented and all new procedures have been shared with parents.

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

- Good use of staff and resources ensures children are well supported throughout the nursery which enables them to develop in their confidence.
- Children are provided with a broad range of interesting activities and play experiences which allow them to make good progress in all areas of their learning. Children have developed close, friendly relationships with all adults and enjoy their play.
- Very good use is made of available play space both inside and outside. Rooms are organised well and children are able to move about freely whilst

allowing them to feel safe and secure in their environment.

- Children are provided with a variety of healthy and nutritious snacks including fresh fruit and vegetables. Careful consideration is given to those children with food allergies and extra steps are taken to ensure all children are included at meal times and during activities such as cookery.

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

- updating of staff's behaviour management training
- home link with parents of under 3's regarding continuation of activities and routines at home such as potty training.

#### **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
11	Ensure staff are kept regularly updated in behaviour management techniques and issues.
12	Ensure there is an effective home link between staff and parents of under 3's regarding continuation of activities and routines at home.

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

### **How effective is the nursery education?**

The provision for nursery education at Kidsunlimited Woodlands Nursery is generally good. It enables children to make very good progress in personal, social and emotional development, knowledge and understanding of the world and physical development and generally good progress in all other areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff plan and provide a range of stimulating and interesting activities for children, showing clear learning intentions linked to the early learning goals. Most staff ensure they question children and allow them to observe, predict and think for themselves, however, some trainee staff do not always use appropriate teaching methods when carrying out activities in order to extend more able children's learning. Activities are evaluated in order to influence future planning and detailed records of children's achievements are kept in order to assess their progress.

The leadership and management of the nursery is generally good. Staff work well together as a team and are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and in the learning intention for the children. Planning of activities is a whole team effort and much appreciated by the pre-school leader. An effective appraisal system allows staff the opportunity to discuss and assess their own professional development.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Parents are very well informed of the Foundation Stage curriculum through regular information evenings for the rising 3's, clear policies and an effective notice board including photographic evidence of the six areas of learning. Parents are regularly updated of their child's progress through three yearly reports and a parent's evening. They are able to view their records of achievements whenever they wish. Staff have developed friendly relationships with all parents and value highly the knowledge they share about their child.

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

- Personal, social and emotional development. Children are confident, take initiative and are developing good personal independence.
- Children's opportunities to develop their physical skills and co-ordination in areas such as running, balancing, throwing and catching.
- The planning of activities across the areas of learning that are linked to the Stepping Stones.
- Information provided for parents on the foundation stage curriculum and their child's developmental progress.

**What needs to be improved?**

- trainee staff's knowledge and understanding of teaching methods in order to extend learning for more able children
- opportunities for children to engage in mark making for a purpose in meaningful activities.

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

Kidsunlimited Woodlands Nursery has made generally good progress since the last inspection. The previous key issue was to provide opportunities within the existing staff appraisal system for those with less experience to observe best teaching practice and reflect upon how different teaching methods are used to achieve identified learning outcomes while fully challenging children's knowledge and understanding.

The manager of the nursery states that there are now opportunities for staff to observe each other under the current appraisal system and that this happens frequently. The manager needs to ensure that all trainees are able to do this on a very regular basis.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are very confident, display good levels of concentration when completing tasks and are able to take initiative in activities. Behaviour is very good and children play well together, fully understanding the concepts of sharing and taking turns. Personal independence is developing very well, children help themselves to snack when they wish and serve their own food at lunch time. Staff use meal times as a good opportunity for children to talk socially about themselves and their families.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident speakers with adults and others, they are happy to speak out in group situations, ask questions and listen well when people are talking. There are good opportunities for children to see, hear and write letters of the alphabet whilst also linking sounds and letters. Children enjoy listening to stories being read, eagerly anticipating what might happen next. However, there are missed opportunities for children to engage in mark making for a purpose especially in role play.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident to count from 1-10 and beyond and are beginning to recognise some numerals from 1-9. Through the range of activities provided children show that they can successfully sort and match by shape, colour and size and understand concepts such as smallest, biggest etc. There are good opportunities for children to explore simple calculation in everyday routine activities such as laying the tables for lunch.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are very motivated to explore and investigate objects and materials in their environment through interesting topics and activities such as gardening and cookery clubs. They show a good interest in ICT equipment and successfully operate the computer with ease. Children are beginning to have a very good sense of time and place reinforced by completing news books to recall their experiences. Children learn about cultures and beliefs of others through planned celebrations of festivals.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move with confidence and very good control on a range of outdoor play equipment. They are very aware of their own personal space and that of others. Balancing equipment is promoted well and children are skilful in areas such as throwing and catching. They handle and purposefully use a variety of tools such as cutlery and pencils with increasing control. Children are developing an understanding of health and bodily awareness such as hand washing before meals.

## CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children have good opportunities on a daily basis to explore shape, colour and texture such as in flour, water or peat play using a variety of tools and all of their senses. Children's imaginative skills are developing well and although provided with role play situations they often make up their own stories and situations such as building aeroplanes and bridges with wooden blocks in the garden. Children enjoy exploring music in a variety of ways including participating in a musical for parents.

**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**

- Ensure all trainee staff are familiar with current teaching methods and practices of the setting in order to be able to stimulate and extend more able children's learning when carrying out activities.
- Ensure all opportunities are used for children to engage in mark making for a purpose in meaningful activities.

*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.*

## **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.*