



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 510091

DfES Number: 583111

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 11/03/2004
Inspector Name Thecla Grant

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Childrens Corner (Headingley) Ltd
Setting Address Shire View, 72 Headingley Lane
Headingley
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS6 2DJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Children's Corner Ltd 4877480

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Children's Corner Ltd
Address 29/31 Clare Road
Halifax
West Yorkshire
HX1 2JP

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

Childrens Corner Ltd Day nursery opened in 1999. It operates from two rooms within a Leeds City Council building which is a centre for the blind and partially sighted. The nursery serves the local area.

There are currently 27 children from 8 months to 4 years on roll. This includes four funded 3 year olds and two funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 07:30 to 18:00.

Two part time and four full time members of staff work with the children. Over half of the staff have early years qualifications. One member of staff is currently working toward a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives teaching support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Childrens Corner Ltd provides satisfactory care for children. The environment is warm and welcoming with good evidence of children's play. Suitable arrangements are made for staff to receive on going training, but training for staff in the under two's room is not well implemented.

Staff are aware of risks to children's health and safety. They mostly ensure the environment is safe and secure for children. Very good attention is given to promoting health and hygiene. Staff recognise children as individuals and meet their differing needs well. A Child Protection Policy which is robust is in place but not fully understood by all staff.

A wide range of toys and equipment is available for children to play with. These are age appropriate and promote learning in all areas. Staff provide an interesting and stimulating balance of activities allowing for both active play and relaxation. They

have built a positive relationship with the children and manage them well. Children are well behaved and happy in their surroundings.

Staff work very well with parents who are informed about the provision and their children's progress in a variety of ways. All documentation is in place, however the recording of registers is not consistently applied.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection Childrens Corner Ltd agreed to ensure that arrangements for staffing to minimize the number of carers for the individual child is in place; devise a procedure for lost or uncollected; ensure adequate arrangements are made for the storage of dirty linen; ensure environmental health advice and regulations are followed; ensure adequate arrangements are made for the preparation of snacks; devise a safe operational procedure for outings; devise an administration of medication policy; devise a policy for sick children; provide an incident record book; devise a complaints procedure; obtain a copy of the ACPC procedures including contact details; ensure staff awareness of child protection is increased.

Most actions raised at the last inspection have been fully implemented: staff now work in set rooms therefore children can now have continuity of care, policy and procedure for lost/missing children, sick children, medication, complaint and incident is in place. Suitable arrangements are implemented for dirty linen and a new kitchen is fitted. An appropriate outings procedure is available and a copy of the Area Child Protection Committee Procedures is in place. Children are now safe on outings and protected from the spread of infection.

Staff know who to report to regarding any child protection issues; but the child protection policy is not fully understood by all staff.

What is being done well?

- Children are involved in a broad range of activities which support their language, mathematical thinking and imagination. They make decisions about their play as they choose from a wide range of toys and equipment. Staff manage children well; children are well behaved.
- A warm and welcoming environment is created with enough space for children to play freely. Children in the under two's room explore their environment happily. Staff have a very good working relationship with the parents, who are informed of the provision in a variety of ways.
- The group strives to adapt their environment to meet the needs of children with special needs. Equipment for the blind such as tactile puzzles are in place. Very good health and hygiene procedures are implemented.

What needs to be improved?

- the records of attendance in the over two's room

- the staff's understanding of the child protection policy which is in place
- the security of the premises, that children are unable to leave them unsupervised or unwanted visitors cannot enter.
- the implementation of staff training (in the under two's room).

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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
13	Develop staff's understanding of the child protection policy which is in place.
14	Make sure records of attendance is kept up to date (over two's room).
2	Make sure training undertaken by staff is implemented in the under 2's room.
6	Make sure that premises are secure and children are unable to leave them unsupervised and unwanted visitors cannot enter.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Children's Corner (Headingley) Ltd provides overall, generally good provision for children.

The children make generally good progress in mathematical development, knowledge and understanding of the world and in creative development. They make very good progress in personal social and emotional development, communication language and literacy and physical development.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff have good knowledge and understanding of the foundation stage. They have clear and effective strategies in place to help foster children's behaviour and ensure methods used to promote good behaviour are consistent and appropriate to the age and understanding of the children. However, planning does not identify how continuous basic provision will promote children's progress in areas of learning and on occasion children may not be effectively grouped which results in staff not being able to sufficiently challenge the more able children.

Leadership and management is generally good. A strong commitment is shown to improve the care and education of setting through the welcoming and implementing of some suggestions from an advisory teacher, and through the developing and updating of staffs knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals, through regular training opportunities.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are provided with good quality information about the care and education of their children through an open door policy and parents evenings. Staff use a variety of ways to keep parents informed on the development of child, for example, profiles are available at all times and daily discussion are held with key-workers. They show respect of the role of the parent in their child's learning and encourage the further practicing of skills at home.

What is being done well?

- Children use language for communication very well. They are able to give clear instructions, take turns in conversation and pay attention to what others say.
- Staff use a variety of way to keep parents informed on the care and education of their children, for example there is an open-door policy, parents can access and participate in profiles at any time, parents evenings have been introduced and if parents wish, a daily written record sheet on the child's day, can continue to be provided, regardless of the age of the child.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. They form good relationships with adults, and staff support them in a way that

positively affects their attitude to learning, for example children enjoy and are enthusiastic and eager about the responsibilities encouraged by staff during their tidying up sessions.

What needs to be improved?

- opportunities for children to develop understanding of addition and subtraction through practical activities and discussion and begin to use the vocabulary involved
- regular opportunities for children to begin to use technological equipment
- regular opportunities for children to explore movement to music
- planning, to identify how continuous basic provision will promote children's progress in areas of learning
- the challenges set for children, children are not always effectively grouped, which results in more able children being insufficiently challenged.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There have been no previous issues raised. This is the settings first inspection for the education of three and four-year-olds.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are very interested, excited and motivated to learn. They form very good relationships and are able to take turns, share and work successfully in small and large groups. They are confident and are developing skills in personal independence. Children are able to sit quietly when appropriate. Their behaviour is very good.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children speak clearly and listen and respond with enjoyment, for example, in story time they clearly name animals from staffs verbal descriptions. Children are able to use speech very well to explore real and imagined experiences and interact with others; negotiating plans and activities and taking turns in conversation. They are developing skills in writing and understanding that print carries meaning. More able children are beginning to name and link letters and sounds.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children can count confidently and reliably up to ten. They are able to use number names in everyday situations and can recognise numbers one to nine. They are able to use mathematical language to describe and compare position, shape, and size. Children's understanding, and the use of the vocabulary involved, in addition and subtraction, may be hindered through limited opportunities in practical activities and discussion.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children learn effectively about their environment and the natural world and use their senses to find out and investigate objects. They are beginning to know about their own culture and beliefs and those of other people, for example, they enjoy walks within the grounds of the blind centre in which their nursery is set. Children's opportunities to find out about, identify and use everyday technology may be hindered through limited resources and opportunities to regularly use what is available.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are able to use a good selection of small and large equipment and are developing confidence, co-ordination and control through equipment such as a climbing frame, bikes and balls. They move very safely in the outdoor area and are able to judge body space well in relation to space available inside, around tables and chairs and equipment. Children are developing awareness of the importance of keeping healthy and those things which contribute to this.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
<p>Children can differentiate colours and are developing an understanding of shape, form and space in two and three dimensions. They can sing simple songs from memory. They use their imagination well and can confidently express and communicate their ideas, thoughts and feelings using available props to support their role play. Limited opportunities for children to explore sound patterns and music may hinder their ability to develop skills in moving rhythmically and matching movement to music.</p>	

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 opportunities for children to develop understanding of addition and subtraction through practical activities and discussion, and begin to use the vocabulary involved.
- provide regular opportunities for children to use technological equipment.
- provide regular opportunities for children to explore movement to music.
- identify how continuous basic provision will promote children's progress in areas of learning.
- ensure children are effectively grouped, to ensure more able children are being sufficiently challenged.

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.