

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 319377

DfES Number: 511355

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 28/05/2003
Inspector Name Ann Dockerty

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care

Setting Name Kindercare Day Nursery

Setting Address The Old School Hall, 85a Lowtown

Pudsey

West Yorkshire LS28 9AZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Kindercare Ltd 2740366

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Kindercare Ltd

Address Hornbeam House, Hornbeam Park

Hookstone Road

Harrogate

North Yorkshire

HG2 8QT

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

Kindacare Nursery is registered to care for 40 children under five years.

The nursery is situated in Pudsey near Leeds, and is set in a converted school building serving families within the local community.

The nursery operates from two rooms and a main central area, of these one room is used for funded three and four year olds. There is also an office, a kitchen, children's and adult toilets and a laundry. The outdoor play space is used by all children attending the nursery. The group opens Monday to Friday, 7.30 to 18.00.

There are currently 25 three and four year olds on roll, and of these, 13 three year olds and 12 four year olds receive funding.

There are currently no children with special educational needs or children with English as an additional language.

The staff team comprises of a supernumerary manager, deputy manager and senior nursery nurse. There are eight qualified nursery nurses and two unqualified nursery assistants. Two qualified nursery nurses and a classroom assistant work directly with funded three and four year olds.

The emphasis is on learning through play.

The nursery has close links with the Early Year's Development and Childcare Partnership, advisory teaching support.

How good is the Day Care?

Kindacare offers satisfactory care for children.

The nursery is warm and welcoming and staff caring for all age groups are vigilant about children's safety. They ensure they are safe indoors and outdoors.

The registered person has not informed OFSTED of significant changes. Not all the staff have had criminal record background checks. Medication records are not kept confidential.

In the area for children under two, the staff plan interesting and varied activities, they are sensitive to children's individual needs. Staff working with the two and three year olds plan a range of activities which are stimulating and challenging. The activity before the children's lunch is too long for the younger children in this age group. They find it difficult to concentrate and participate for such a length of time.

The staff are confident and consistent when managing the children's behaviour. The children behave very well.

There is a good range of activities provided for the three and four year olds. Staff plan activities which help the children work towards the early learning goals. However, opportunities for three and four year olds to experience large physical play could be further developed.

Staff interact well with the children and help develop their self esteem and confidence through practical, everyday activities.

Meals are well balanced and nutritious, however fresh vegetables are not included in the menu and older children do not have drinks offered between meal times.

Parents are well informed about all aspects of the nursery and their children, particularly in the baby area, where written information is given to parents. They can access information through development records and the key worker system regarding the progress their children are making.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the nursery were asked to ensure sufficient staff were working with the children over the lunch time period, an additional member of staff is now covering this period. They have now repaired taps in the children's bathroom to enable children to use independently. There is now a named menmber of staff for behaviour management who has attended appropriate training. The child protection statement now includes a procedure for handling allegations of abuse.

What is being done well?

- There is a good range of toys and activities for all age groups. The staff plan an interesting range of activities to give children enjoyable and challenging experiences.
- Staff interact well with the children, giving them praise and encouragement.
- The nursery is warm and welcoming and safe indoors and outdoors.
- The staff manage the children's behaviour well, they are confident and consistent in their approach to behaviour management.

- Parents are kept well informed about the nursery and the progress their children make.
- Records and documents are well organised and kept up to date.

What needs to be improved?

- notification to OFSTED of significant changes
- the completion of criminal record background checks for all staff
- the length of time of the activity before lunch for two and three year olds
- the opportunity for three and four year olds to develop large physical skills
- the opportunity for older children to have more drinks
- the introduction of fresh vegetables into the menu
- the system for keeping medication records confidential.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown					
Std	Action	Date			
1	Notify OFSTED of significant changes.	14/06/2003			

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection				
Std	Recommendation			
8	Provide opportunities for older children to access drinks between meals			
1	Undertake CRB checks for all staff.			
1	Keep confirmation of CRB check clearance on site.			
3	Reduce the lenghth of time used for the pre lunch activity for 2 and 3 year old children			

4	Room measurments of the area used by the 3 and 4 year old's are used to calculate numbers of children able to use this room.
7	Gain parental signatures on medication records.
9	Extend resources which reflect equality of opportunity within the home bay area.
12	Ensure a method of keeping sensitive information regarding medication confidential.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Kindercare Nursery offers generally good quality education overall. Children are motivated to learn through a range of interesting activities provided, and this enables them to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals in most of the six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff have a sound knowledge of the foundation stage, which enables them to plan and assess children's progress. Long term plans in physical development and creative development are still being reviewed. This leads to some weaknesses in aspects of these areas of learning, and also affects children's designing and making skills in knowledge and understanding of the world.

The key strengths in the children's personal social and emotional development is due to the good interaction which staff engage the children in. They encourage the children to be confident in sharing their experiences in both group and individual situations.

Staff manage the children's behaviour effectively. They have good self control, and there are clear boundaries set, which help the children to foster a respect for each other.

Although there are currently no children with special educational needs, there is a system in place to provide good support.

Leadership and management is generally good. There is a sound management structure in place, and staff are committed and well motivated to continue improving the quality of education provided. The manager is able to recognise the nurseries strengths and weaknesses and is taking steps to ensure that staff's own development is encouraged through further training, and individual appraisals.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are well informed about all aspects of nursery, the curriculum, and their children's progress. Parental contribution is encouraged and valued. The key worker system ensures that parents have good relationships with staff.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal social and emotional development is very good. Children behave well and have caring relationships with each other and staff. Their independence skills are developing well and show increasing confidence in carrying out their own tasks and choosing from a range of activities.
- Older children are able to write their names for a variety of purposes, younger children are developing this skill with increasing confidence.

- Staff's interaction with the children is effective. They provide many opportunities and challenges for children to talk, use language for thinking, and share their experiences.
- Many children have good concepts of shape and size, and are able to count to ten and beyond. Older children recognise numbers from one to ten.
- Children have a good sense of time and place. They are able to recall past events accurately and know what is happening in the future.
- Partnership with parents is very good. parents are well informed of their child's progress, and are encouraged to contribute to all aspects of nursery life.

What needs to be improved?

- Key Issues
- Long term planning for physical development and the provision of large and small equipment to enable the children to travel under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment, and recognise the changes that happen to their bodies when they are active.
- The extension of mark making in other areas, to enable children to write lists, record observations, and label objects.
- The planning and provision of resources and malleable materials to improve creative development and knowledge and understanding of the world, and provide opportunities for children to shape, assemble and join, improve their designing and making skills, and enable them to explore colour, and texture in two or three dimensions.
- Point for consideration.
- The use of mathematical resources and language to enable children to use more addition and subtraction in both practical and everyday activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has made generally good progress since the last inspection.

Children are now able to use a wide variety of resources and activities which help them to make very good progress in mathematical development, however there is one point for consideration, that staff provide more opportunities for children to develop addition and subtraction skills when combining two groups of objects.

There are more opportunities for children to use technology to support their learning. The computer is available at all times, during each play session.

There is now an effective programme in place for children to develop their experiences of their environment.

Partnership with parents is now very good. Parents are well informed of their

children's	progress	and are	encouraged	to contribute	to all aspects	of nursery life.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's behaviour is very good. They have increasing self control and listen well. They are confident at speaking out and sharing their own experiences, with both adults and each other.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Most three and four year olds are confident communicators and explore both real and imagined experiences well. Older children are good at writing their names for a variety of purposes, including making lists. All children are able to freely access mark making equipment, although these could be extended into other areas for example, labelling objects and recording observations.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Most children are competent at recognising size, and shape. They are able to count to ten and beyond, and most children recognise numbers up to ten. Children's opportunities to use addition and subtraction in practical and every day activities are developing, but staff could provide more opportunities to enable older children to be further challenged.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children have a good sense of time and place, and are able to recall past events and share their experiences. Children are developing an increasing knowledge of their environment. There are missed opportunities for children to design and build using a wide range of tools and techniques.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Significant Weaknesses

Children use small tools to develop independence skills well. Most children show a good awareness of space and each other when running outdoors, however, younger children lack space awareness indoors, and most are not aware of how their bodies change when they are physically active. There are limited times in which they can use balance and climbing equipment

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children know many songs and enjoy singing. They use their imaginations well and are able to act out real experiences through role play, although there are limited times for children to be able to express themselves through art and design using a variety of textures, and materials.

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

- Key Issues.
- Plan regular opportunities for children to practice their large physical skills and move imaginatively.
- Plan activities which encourage children to recognises the changes that happen to their bodies when they are active.
- Evaluate and improve the organisation of resources and malleable materials to ensure the children have more opportunities to join shape and assemble, and enable them to express themselves through art, design, music, texture and form in two and three dimensions.
- Point for consideration.
- Use mathematical resources and language to provide further challenge for older children to add and subtract in both practical and everyday 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.