



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 116696

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 11/03/2004  
Inspector Name Ann Field

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Marlow Day Nursery  
Setting Address Sandygate Road  
Marlow  
Buckinghamshire  
SL7 3AZ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Joanna Brown

## 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

Marlow Day Nursery is a privately owned nursery. It opened in June 1997 and operates from a purpose built building in the grounds of Marlow Church of England Infants School. The nursery serves the local area.

There are currently 124 children under 8 years on roll. This includes 19 funded 3-year-olds and 6 funded 4-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group currently supports children who speak English as an additional language; none currently attend who have special needs.

The nursery opens 5 days a week, all year round from 08:00 until 18:00.

Twenty two full time and three part time staff work with the children. Eleven have early years qualifications and nine are on training programmes. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

The Marlow Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. All aspects of the provision are well organised and effective use is made of the staff, space and resources to ensure that all children are well cared for. The manager and staff work together to plan a stimulating range of activities that meet the needs of all the children. They are guided by an agreed set of policies and procedures, which they understand and consistently implement.

The staff have a keen awareness of safety issues and the need to supervise children well; most areas for promoting the children's good health have been addressed. The children are helped to learn good personal hygiene habits and to have respect for each other. The nursery promotes healthy diets for children within the meals provided; the management of meal times does not explore all learning opportunities.

Staff plan and implement a range of interesting activities linked to a theme; children are encouraged to make their own choices about play. There is an effective key worker system, which enables staff to establish good relationships with the children and their parents. The staff know the children well and take account of individual needs; they are skilful in managing children's behaviour and in developing their confidence and independence.

There is a good partnership with parents and carers. They are kept well informed

about the daily activities and are very happy with the service provided. All the relevant paperwork is in place and there are some well-written policies and procedures.

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

At the last inspection the provider agreed to revise the sleep routine; this has been well thought through and is now an area of strength. Policies for complaints and child protection needed reviewing, these have been done inline with the National Standards. A policy was required for a lost or missing child. This has been devised and is included in the operational plan.

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

- Teamwork is evident throughout the nursery; the staff's roles are well defined. This ensures they are able to support the children's play and learning and to assist appropriately in their care. The staff are given good opportunities to update their training and skills. They meet regularly as a team and there is an effective induction programme followed by regular supervision and appraisal.
- The children participate in a wide range of interesting and exciting activities, which are well resourced. Staff have a good rapport with the children and interact well in their play; they regularly involve the children in musical activities. Excellent use is made of the outside area and local facilities; the children enjoy regular walks to the town and local park. Staff give attention to meeting young children's individual needs; they plan activities to give babies and toddlers interesting sensory experiences.
- The staff create a welcoming and safe environment for children. They are aware of hazards and have procedures in place to minimize risks. There are colourful displays of the children's work and the rooms are set out to promote learning and development. The newly revised sleep routine works well in practice; children are able to sleep undisturbed in a quiet and darkened room.
- The staff manage the children's behaviour in a consistent and age-appropriate way. The children are well occupied; they are given plenty of praise and encouragement and respond well to the boundaries set.
- The staff have developed very good relationships with the parents. They have a friendly approach; parents are greeted on arrival and information is exchanged freely. The parents are kept well informed about their child's care and given access to the policies and procedures. Regular newsletters are produced and there is a detailed notice board in each room.

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

- hygiene to ensure that all heaters are dusted regularly and food being taken to the rooms is covered
- the lunch time routine, especially in the pre-school room, to ensure that every learning opportunity is explored and the children have the opportunity to

serve their meals, make choices and help to clear away once the meal is finished.

**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
7	Ensure good hygiene practices are in place regarding distribution of food to the rooms and review management of meal times to fully enhance the children's learning experience.

## **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.*