



**Office for Standards  
in Education**

## **COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT**

**URN** 511406

**DfES Number:** 519578

### **INSPECTION DETAILS**

Inspection Date      01/03/2004  
Inspector Name      Jane Mount

### **SETTING DETAILS**

Day Care Type      Full Day Care  
Setting Name      BP Nursery (Tiny Toes)  
Setting Address      Leverstock Green School  
                                 Green Lane, Leverstock Green  
                                 Hemel Hempstead  
                                 Hertfordshire

### **REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS**

Name      Bright Horizons Family Solutions Ltd. 2328679

### **ORGANISATION DETAILS**

Name      Bright Horizons Family Solutions Ltd.  
Address      2 Crown Court  
                         Crown Way  
                         Rushden  
                         Northamptonshire  
                         NN10 6BS

## 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

Tiny Toes Nursery is owned by Bright Horizons Family Solutions Limited and is solely for employees of BP Amoco. The day nursery is situated within the grounds of Leverstock Green Primary School, Leverstock Green and near to Hemel Hempstead.

The manager is Rosemary Quint, NNEB and the nursery offers sessional and full time care. It is open from 08:00 to 18:00, Monday to Friday and closed only for public and bank holidays. The premises is a single storey building with a fully enclosed garden for outside play with grass and paved play areas.

The nursery is registered for 54 children under 5 years and receives funding for 3 and 4 year olds. There are currently no children attending with special needs or who speak English as an additional language.

Tiny Toes nursery offers an activity based programme linked to the early learning goals and the Foundation Stage and a keyworker system supports this.

### How good is the Day Care?

Tiny Toes Nursery provides good quality care for children.

A stimulating, secure environment is provided that allows young children to develop and learn through play. The children's care, learning and play are supported well by staff who monitor the children's progress through regular observations, planning and evaluation.

The staff have a good understanding of the children's dietary needs and mealtimes are organised with staff sitting with children. Special dietary needs are sensitively cared for and information is recorded appropriately and shared with staff. Areas for promoting children's health and safety are good with a clear, comprehensive policy which is implemented well.

Toys, equipment and materials available provide a balanced range of activities that

promotes children's learning. Children can reach the resources easily and they are generally in good condition. Displays and resources reflect positive images of culture, gender and disability.

Staff have a consistent approach to their work with regular staff meetings and an effective induction programme. Through staff appraisals they are encouraged to maintain their professional development by identifying training needs and ensuring these are met.

Space is generally organised effectively and a welcoming environment is provided for children and parents. There is an effective keyworker system which enables staff to establish strong relationships with children and parents and they are aware of each child's individual needs. Information is shared regularly and parents are kept well informed of their child's progress. All children are valued and included and staffing arrangements and resources are organised to ensure all children can take part at a level appropriate to their needs.

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

At the last inspection the nursery agreed to have a baby monitor available to monitor sleeping babies and to provide bottle heaters. A baby monitor is now in place and bottle heaters have been provided.

It was also agreed to replace the matting beneath the toddler room slide and to devise a method of ensuring children's development records are completed monthly. The matting has been replaced and monthly development records are now completed by keyworkers.

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

- All staff carry out their roles and responsibilities well and know what is expected of them. They are keen to develop their skills and update their knowledge through regular training.
- The children are given time to play and learn independently and also time with activities which need more support and direction from staff. A stimulating environment is provided in which young children can develop and learn through play with staff closely monitoring the children's progress and giving one to one play opportunities throughout the day.
- All children are valued and included. Staffing arrangements are designed to meet the needs of individual children.
- A welcoming environment is provided. Staff work in close partnership with parents and information is shared effectively. Parent questionnaires reflect this with such comments as 'the staff are very welcoming and caring, providing excellent quality of care'.

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

- the organisation of space to allow for more play opportunities
- the procedures for ensuring resources are updated and are inviting to the children.

### 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 play space is organised to allow all areas of the room to be used to its full potential. (This refers to the 'Big' room).   |
| 5   | Ensure resources available are of a suitable condition to be inviting, interesting and stimulating to children. (This refers particularly to jigsaws, books and children's mealtime name recognition cards). |

## 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 Tiny Toes Nursery is of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the Early Learning Goals in five areas of learning and very good progress in the area of physical development.

The quality of teaching is generally good. All staff working with the funded children have attended Foundation Stage training and have a good knowledge and understanding of the stepping stones and early learning goals. They have a commitment to further development and attend ongoing training.

Staff plan and evaluate the curriculum to incorporate all areas of learning and ensure children receive a balanced education programme. However, on a daily basis, children would benefit from more free access to basic/creative materials and further opportunities to become involved in routine tasks.

Staff regularly record observations to assess children's learning. These are effectively used to inform future planning and take into consideration children's individual learning needs.

Staff interact positively with the children, asking questions, listening to them and acknowledging their comments and stories.

The leadership and management of the nursery is very good. An established staff team work well together and show a commitment towards the provision, through ongoing training. The company has successfully completed the Investors in People award and is currently working towards the Hertfordshire Quality Standards accreditation. Managerial staff place emphasis on professionalism and high standards of care and continually monitor and evaluate nursery practice.

Partnership with parents/carers is generally good. Staff communicate and inform parents in many ways; via e-mail, regular newsletters and a parents handbook. Questionnaires are sent out for feedback. Parents evenings and daily contact provide an opportunity to share information about children's progress. Feedback from parents is positive.

### What is being done well?

- Staff have established secure relationships with the children. They listen and support them; consequently, children are happy, settled and confident in their approach to both adults and children. Children are motivated to try out new activities and participate enthusiastically.
- Children have good opportunities to develop their information and technology skills. They make regular use of the class computer and use a tape recorder and headphones to listen to stories.

- Children's physical development is supported well. They are provided with a range of equipment, resources and activities to promote this area very effectively.
- The nursery is led and managed very well. There are high staff expectations and everyone is clear of their roles and responsibilities. The manager supports staff through a supervision and appraisal system. Both internal and external monitoring ensures the nursery continually evaluates and reviews its practice.
- Staff communicate well with parents. They regularly share and complete information about each child. The 'My child at home' record enables parents to provide staff with valuable information about their child.

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

- opportunities for children to access basic and creative materials more freely
- increase opportunities to develop children's independence and be more involved in routine tasks

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

The nursery has made generally good progress since the last inspection. They were requested to ensure that the new record keeping is manageable enough for the staff to use effectively to set simple targets for all the children to achieve.

This is now a strength of the nursery. Staff regularly record short observations of the children, as and when they happen. These are then collated and slotted into the children's individual records. More detailed, bi monthly observations are carried out on a specific area of learning too. Therefore, record keeping covers all areas of learning and includes a termly summary with identified targets for the children.

The nursery were also requested to make sure there is a good balance of teacher directed and the children's own imaginative ideas in the art and model making activities. This balance should be represented in the attractive wall displays. Wall displays do now reflect both adult directed and child led activities. However, children will benefit from further opportunities for children to access creative materials more freely.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are happy and settled within their environment and participate enthusiastically in activities. They are excited to try out new things and adults respond to children that need additional support. Children form good relationships with their peers and the adults. They approach adults confidentially to initiate conversation and to express ideas. Children are sensitive to others and help younger children at lunchtime. However, there are missed opportunities to be involved in routine tasks.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children communicate well with adults and other children. They listen well at group time and at the end of the morning are able to recall events from earlier on in the session. Adults listen and acknowledge children's own experiences and tales, encouraging their conversations. An 'art gallery' shows children's emergent writing with older children forming recognisable words/short sentences to accompany their picture. Adults focus on a letter and sound for each week.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children can count up to 10 and practise these skills in a variety of ways, such as using an abacus and during computer programmes. Children are beginning to develop an understanding of addition and subtraction through practical activities, e.g using number rhymes. They are able to identify and select named shapes and use practical activities, observing daffodils, to reinforce this. Plans show that mathematical language such as more and less is incorporated into planned activities.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children make good use of information and communication technology. They are able to complete a simple computer programme and know how to operate simple equipment, such as telephones and headphones. Photographs show children, using tools to take a stereo apart to gain an understanding of how it works. Children are beginning to know about their own and other peoples cultures and beliefs, they taste different foods and listen to stories that relate to various cultures.

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children use a range of small and large equipment to develop their gross motor and fine manipulative skills. Outdoors, they manoeuvre bikes skilfully and use a parachute to successfully control a ball. Children are gaining an awareness of the importance of staying healthy. A display of 'physical activities that keep us fit' and another involving children in 'food that keeps us healthy' helps to reinforce this concept. Children use a variety of tools, scissors and pens with good control.

### **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Generally Good

Children collect materials to make daffodils. They draw, cut out the stem and use a glue stick to seal the edges, with accuracy. Children enjoy singing and are able to follow words and actions of rhymes. They are beginning to explore different sounds of instruments. Although children do have times to explore different media and materials, further opportunities to use paint, sand, water and other basic/creative materials more freely would enhance this area of development.

**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 access basic and creative materials more freely.
- Provide opportunities to develop children's independence and involve them in routine tasks.

*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.*