



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 135109

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 25/02/2004  
Inspector Name Helen Maria Steven

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Holcroft Community Childcare Centre  
Setting Address 10 Carburton Street  
London  
W1W 5AL

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Westminster Children's Society 2228978  
299686

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Westminster Children's Society  
Address 121 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4LX

## 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

Holcroft Community Childcare Centre registered under the Children Act in 1992 and is one of 12 nurseries run by Westminster Children's Society. It operates from two basement rooms and has a fully enclosed garden. The nursery is based in Fitzrovia which is a residential neighbourhood close to commercial areas. The nursery aims to provide a service for families from the local community, which includes placements funded by Social Services.

There are currently 19 children from 18mths to 5 years on roll. This includes 5 funded 3year olds and 3 funded 4 year olds. Children attend either full or part-time. The setting aims to support 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 08:30 - 17:30 full time, 09:00 - 12:00 or 13:00 - 16:00 part-time.

Five full-time staff work with the children. The majority of the staff have early years qualifications. One staff member is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

The nursery receives support from a speech therapist and benefits from support afforded by the Westminster Children's Society. The setting is embarking on a pilot scheme for quality assurance.

### How good is the Day Care?

Holcroft Community Childcare Centre provides good care for children. The nursery is well staffed with almost all of the team holding relevant childcare qualifications and benefiting from on-going training. Overall the organisation of the nursery is good and allows staff to work closely with the children however some arrangements do not support the needs of children under two.

Children have access to a very good range of play materials that are organised effectively nevertheless some areas of the nursery are not fully reflective of the nursery curriculum. During the day children make use of all areas of the nursery including the hallway, but there is no freedom of movement between the rooms or the garden. There is a good range of policies and procedures in place and all relevant documentation is up to date although OFSTED were not notified of changes

to the premises.

The staff have a sound understanding of ensuring children's safety in the nursery and when outside. They have an excellent understanding of good hygiene practices within the nursery environment and the manager ensures that staff are aware of child protection procedures.

The staff team have a very clear understanding of planning and assessment for the children, they provide a stimulating range of activities. The staff are very focussed and interested in working directly with the children and behaviour is managed consistently. There is a clear equal opportunities policy in place which is reflected in most areas and staff aim to provide care for children with special needs ensuring good links are made with other professionals.

The nursery staff have a very good working relationship with parents.

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

There were no actions set at the last inspection.

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

- The staff have developed good relationships with parents to ensure that children's well-being, development and progress is supported. There is a two-way flow of information both verbal and written and staff are proactive in encouraging extended family members into the nursery to share their knowledge and expertise.
- Children's behaviour is managed consistently in a positive manner in line with the level of children's understanding and maturity.
- Staff have developed links with other professionals to ensure that the individual needs of children are met. Links with a speech therapist have given staff the opportunity to develop their knowledge and practices.
- The nursery environment is bright, welcoming and child focused. Children are provided with a large and varied range of toys and play material that are accessible to the children and are well maintained.

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

- The notification to OFSTED regarding changes to premises, which was not carried out when the kitchen was extended.
- The development of the book corner and home corner to enhance children's play and learning opportunities.
- The organisation of the nursery to ensure that the needs of the under two's are fully supported, arrangements for staffing should minimise the number of carers for the individual child and the use of the base room should be focused on each child's specific needs

- The arrangements for the computer to ensure the health and safety of the children using it.

### 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
2	review the arrangements for children under two to ensure that they can always have use of the base area and ensure that the arrangements for staffing minimises the numbers of carers for an individual child.
3	develop the book area and home corner to enhance the play and learning opportunities for the children
5	provide suitable furniture and conditions for the computer when used by children
14	ensure that OFSTED is notified of any changes to the premises

## **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.*