



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 400067

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	07/12/2004
Inspector Name	Linda Cook

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	The Kinder Set Early Years School & Nursery
Setting Address	Uplands House Castle Howard Road Malton North Yorkshire YO17 6NJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The partnership of The Kinder Set Early Years School & Nursery
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Kinder Set Early Years School & Nursery
Address	Uplands House Castle Howard Road Malton North Yorkshire YO17 6NJ

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

The Kinder-Set Early Years School and Nursery was registered in 1996 and is a nursery school which is managed by the proprietor. It is located on the outskirts of the North Yorkshire market town of Malton, and the children attending are drawn from the local farming community and from a wider catchment area. Older children are accommodated in the main house, whilst younger children have their own purpose built building within the grounds. The children benefit from direct access to the outdoor play area. Of the 76 children attending, 28 receive nursery funding and 1 child has English as an additional language. Appropriate provision is made for those children who have special educational needs although there are none on role at present. A maximum of ten sessions are offered to the children each week, with the nursery operating from 07.30 until 18:00 weekdays, for 50 weeks of the year. All staff have, or are working towards, appropriate qualifications in the care and education of young children. In addition, the proprietor has Montessori qualifications. The nursery receives the support of the Local Authority and follows the Montessori approach to education in the early years.

How good is the Day Care?

The Kinder-Set Early Years School and Nursery provides good quality care for children. A well established staff team work together effectively to ensure the care, safety and welfare of the children is paramount. A commitment to on-going training ensures staff are provided with opportunities to update their knowledge and skills.

The environment is clean and welcoming. Children's art work, pictures and educational posters decorate the walls. The available space is well organised and used effectively to meet the needs of all the children.

Children throughout the nursery are happy and well stimulated. They receive the constant support and reassurance of staff. Activities which are varied and stimulating provide children with new experiences enabling them to build on what they know and can do. There is a very wide range of toys and resources which are well maintained, many of them made from natural materials. There is a good range of resources and activities that promotes cultural diversity.

A high regard for matters of health and safety ensure children are cared for in a safe environment where safety is regularly reviewed. Children are encouraged by staff to follow appropriate hygiene routines. Meals and snacks are varied, nutritious and

home cooked on the premises. The children eat their meals together with staff, making meal times a pleasant social occasion. Very young children follow individual feeding patterns.

A positive approach to behaviour management ensures children develop and maintain good self esteem. They respond well to the staffs clear guidance and praise.

Requirements for documentation and record keeping are met effectively. There is a comprehensive operational plan which underpins the good quality care provided and has a positive impact on the children.

Relationships with parents are good, the nursery works closely with parents to ensure the children's needs are met and parents are kept informed of their child's achievements.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provision was asked to ensure children could not access the first floor or kitchen area.

A gate has been fitted to the bottom of the stairs and a self closing unit fitted to the kitchen door, ensuring children's safety.

What is being done well?

- Comprehensive policies and procedures and a structured induction procedure effectively integrates all staff who are aware of the nursery routines and their roles, this has a positive impact on the care of the children.
- Relationships between children and all staff are excellent; the children are happy, confident and relaxed. Children are provided with a wide range of stimulating activities covering all areas of learning. They play happily individually and participate in group activities. They rehearsed for the Christmas concert with enthusiasm, with some of the older children confidently taking solo roles.
- Behaviour is managed effectively. The behaviour policy is made available to parents and applied consistently by staff. The children are well behaved and are developing good manners. They are encouraged to share, take turns and play co-operatively together, showing respect for others and their surroundings.
- There is a wide range of toys and resources available for the children stored at child height enabling the children to develop independence as they self select. Resources are used effectively to support the planned topics. All resources are clean, safe, well maintained and provide sufficient challenge for children who are actively engaged throughout the nursery and school.
- Meals which are cooked on the premises; varied and nutritious are provided for the children. The children eat healthily and specific dietary requirements

are catered for.

- Very positive relationships with parents are established and maintained. They are provided with a wealth of information both written and verbal and have many opportunities to discuss their children's progress with staff. Discussions with parents at the inspection visit were positive and parental feedback forms indicate parents are appreciative of the good quality care their children receive.

What needs to be improved?

- As identified in the provider's own development plan, the opportunities for children to access outdoor play are to be developed and the outdoor facilities extended further

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report on.

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.

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.