



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY289489

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/12/2004
Inspector Name Anne Felicity Taylor

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Princess Christian Nurseries
Setting Address MacBeth Approach
Warwick
Warwickshire
CV34 6AD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Princess Christian Nurseries, Nord Anglia Plc. 861615

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Princess Christian Nurseries, Nord Anglia Plc.
Address Nord Anglia Nurseries +/a Leapfrog Day Nurseries
Nord Anglia Education Plc, Anglia House, Carrs Road
Cheadle
Cheshire
SK8 2LA

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

Leapfrog is a nursery run by Nord Anglia Day Nurseries. It registered in June 2004 and operates from a purpose-built building on the outskirts of Warwick and Leamington Spa. It is situated close to an industrial estate and residential areas. A maximum of one hundred and twenty-two children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open from 08:00 to 18:00 all year round. The children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently one hundred and thirty-six children aged from three months to five years on roll. Of these twenty children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area. The nursery is able to support children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery currently employs twenty-nine staff. Nineteen of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. Four staff are working towards a qualification. Agency staff are available for sickness and holiday cover.

How good is the Day Care?

Leapfrog Nursery provides satisfactory care for children. Some members of the staff team have been at the nursery for some time and are qualified and experienced in the care of babies and young children. Other staff team members have little experience and some are completing appropriate qualifications. Staff/child ratios must be maintained at all times with experienced staff working in all areas, ensuring the key worker system is effective.

Security is a high priority and risk assessments have been completed. Fire evacuation procedures are in place and practiced. A first aider is on site at all times and first aid boxes are fully-stocked. Child protection procedures are in place. Children are encouraged in good personal hygiene. Staff must ensure that there are sufficient disposable items for the care of the children, available at all times, e.g. paper towels. Sleeping babies are monitored carefully.

Play equipment and resources are limited in some areas, restricting the activities staff can provide. Effective planning for pre-school children encourages individual interests, co-operative play and imaginative play; children have the opportunity to listen to stories, tell their news, discuss the weather and join in singing as a large group. Regular outdoor play is offered. Opportunities for children to develop

independence skills and choice are limited, e.g. during play and mealtimes.

Parents are offered regular opportunities to be involved in the care of their child through regular parents' evenings, settling in visits and a monthly newsletter. Policies, procedures and all documentation are under review at present. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- There is plenty of free play space and children have many opportunities to move freely in the play areas.
- Young babies enjoy a lot of one to one attention and good interaction with staff. There are good procedures to monitor babies as they sleep.
- Planning in the pre-school area is good, with some children making good progress. Development and observation records inform future planning.
- All the children are offered a well-balanced diet of freshly prepared meals and snacks. There are very good procedures in place to meet any dietary needs.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedure to continue to monitor child/staff ratios throughout the whole day and minimise the movement of staff to ensure the effectiveness of the key worker system
- the procedure to ensure that children have the opportunity to make choices and develop their independence skills in play activities and general routines
- the procedure to ensure there are sufficient toys and activity resources in all areas to provide a good balance and variety of play and learning opportunities
- the procedure to ensure that the procedure to complete accident records is always followed
- the procedure to ensure all policies and documentation are reviewed and updated.

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.)

A complaint was received in November 2004 relating to Standard 2 (Organisation), Standard 5 (Equipment) and Standard 12 (Working in Partnership with Parents and Carers). The concerns received were that:

staff were not suitably deployed to meet child/staff ratios and minimum qualified staff levels at all times in all rooms;

that management style and availability did not support staff;

that there had been a lack of suitable equipment and resources.

Ofsted investigated by unannounced inspection and it was found that there had been issues with staff deployment and resources during the period relating to the complaint and the provider had already taken action to resolve some of those issues. The provider agreed to monitor levels of qualified/unqualified staff working directly with the children over the lunch period and has written to Ofsted with details of how they intend to ensure suitable levels are to be maintained.

The provider remains qualified for registration.

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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	Continue to monitor child/staff ratios throughout the whole day and minimize the movement of staff to ensure the effectiveness of the key worker system.
3	Ensure that children have the opportunity to make choices and develop their independence skills in play activities and general routines.
5	Ensure there are sufficient toys and activity resources in all areas to provide a good balance and variety of play and learning opportunities.
7	Ensure that the procedure to complete accident records is always followed.
7	Ensure there are sufficient disposal items for the care of babies and children always available throughout the nursery and that individual creams are clearly marked.

14	Ensure all policies and documentation are reviewed and updated.
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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.