



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY279983

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/01/2005
Inspector Name Rosalyn Whelan

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Herald House
Setting Address 150 Station Road
Amersham
Buckinghamshire
HP6 5DW

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Daybreak Nurseries LTD 4581370

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Daybreak Nurseries LTD
Address 45 Sandy Lodge Way
Northwood
Middlesex
HA6 2AR

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

Herald House is run by Daybreak Nurseries Ltd. The day nursery opened in 2004 and operates from six rooms in a three-storey building. It is situated close to the train station in Amersham, Buckinghamshire. A maximum of 45 children may attend the day nursery at any one time. The day nursery is open each weekday from 07.30 to 19.00 for 51 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 36 children aged from 3 months to under 5 years on roll.

The day nursery employs 12 staff. Six of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. Six staff are working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Herald House provides good quality care for children. Most aspects of the day nursery are well organised: effective use is made of the staff and resources to ensure that children are well cared for. Children are able to relax and play in a comfortable environment. There is an adequate selection of resources and activities available. Policies and procedures are in place to ensure that the staff has a consistent approach to their work.

The staff have a very good understanding of safety issues and all areas for promoting children's good health and protection have been addressed. Staff follow good hygiene practices and encourage children to learn personal hygiene. Staff have a good understanding of child protection procedures and their role in the protection of children. Meal times are well managed and drinks are available for children throughout the day.

Staff work very well with the children who are happy and settled. They keenly interact in their play and spend time developing trusting relationships. However, the activities are not always made easily accessible to enable the children to self-select. The children respond well to the staffs' enthusiasm, praise and encouragement and they are skilful in managing children's behaviour.

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 required policies and procedures are in place and made freely available to parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable this being the first inspection.

What is being done well?

- Good use is made of the space, resources and equipment to give children stimulating experiences. Staff interact enthusiastically in children's play and take time to talk, listen and ask them questions. There is suitable provision for children to play, relax and learn in a comfortable environment.
- Staff create a safe environment for children. They are aware of the hazards to children's safety and have procedures in place to minimize risks. The evacuation plan is practised with children and staff on a regular basis and details of drills undertaken are recorded accurately. Staff have a good understanding of their role in the protection of children.
- The children are well behaved; there is good adult interaction with a high ratio of staff to children. The children are given plenty of praise and encouragement; they respond well to the boundaries set.
- Staff take frequent opportunities to update their training and skills.
- Roles are well defined; these ensure the staff are able to support the children's play and learning and to assist appropriately in their care.
- Staff develop good relationships with parents. They have a friendly approach and an easy rapport with parents, which ensures information, is exchanged freely and parents are kept informed about their child's welfare and development.
- The staff have a high regard for health issues; they make sure that all children who attend the nursery are well cared for. Routines to promote good health and hygiene are established. The premises are clean and well maintained with good toilet facilities to ensure comfort, hygiene and privacy.

What needs to be improved?

- activities and resources, to ensure that children have easy access and can self-select from a wide and varied range of activities, including positive images of the world.

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.

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
5	ensure that all children have easy access to self select from a wider varied range of activities and resources; including positive images of the world.

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.