



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY221690

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/02/2005
Inspector Name Lesley Ann Barrett

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Leapfrog Day Nursery (Peterborough)
Setting Address Hargate Way
Hampton
Hargate
Peterborough
PE2 9LG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Leapfrog Day Nurseries (Trading) Ltd 3229362

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Leapfrog Day Nurseries (Trading) Ltd
Address Central Office
Second Avenue, Centrum 100
Burton Upon Trent
STAFFS
DE14 2WF

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 Day Nursery opened in April 2002. It operates from a large, purpose-built premises situated within Hampton, a new township, to the south of Peterborough city centre. The nursery serves children living in the local and surrounding areas.

There are currently 150 children on roll. This includes forty-four funded three and four-year-olds. The setting supports children with special needs. There are currently no children who speak English as an additional language attending the nursery.

The nursery opens five days per week all year round. Opening times are from 08:00 to 18:00hrs, although arrangements can be made to provide care from 07:00 to 19:00hrs. Children can attend for a variety of sessions.

More than twenty-eight full, and part-time, staff work with the children. Half of the staff have an early years qualification or are working towards an NVQ in childcare.

The setting receives the support of a pedagogical teacher and child care advisor from the Peterborough Sure Start Strategic Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Leapfrog Day Nursery provides satisfactory care for children.

Staff are appropriately deployed to ensure that there is a qualified, and experienced, person working in each base unit. Training has been addressed and is on-going, to increase staff's knowledge, enabling them to carry out their role and address children's needs. However, staff ratios in the pre-school room are not being maintained over lunch-time periods resulting in insufficient adult support for children at this time. Space and resources are organised effectively to provide a welcoming environment for children in most rooms but the lack of child-accessible storage and furniture in the first steps room limits children's ability to access resources.

Staff show an awareness of safety issues, and procedures are in place to allow children to play safely, indoors and outside. However, storage of unused furniture, in the pre-school rooms, is hazardous and limits space available to children. Staff demonstrate good hygiene skills when serving food, appropriate disposable gloves and aprons are worn for the purpose of serving food only.

Plans of activities are in place throughout the nursery, and staff take into account the

children's needs, for a mixture of fresh air and opportunities to relax. However, staff working within first steps and the toddlers do not always provide children with a sufficient variety of resources to stimulate them, or take into account children's needs, when planning activities. Children's art work is displayed, however, not at their height and pictures/ displays which reflect diversity are limited. Staff working within pre-school use effective techniques to manage children's behaviour. Support is available for children with special needs.

Staff develop good relationships with parents and provide them with written information about their child's day. Child protection procedures are in place although the policy is not being adhered to with regard to training in this area.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Following the last inspection the setting received six actions and nine recommendations.

To date generally good progress has been made.

A temporary manager is monitoring staff. Regular staff meetings are held. Further progress is required.

The manager monitors staff ensuring they spend time working with children.

Recruitment continues to take place for qualified staff. Staff have attended foundation stage training and additional training has been identified.

There has been a significant improvement within the pre-school room; plans identify all areas of learning. Children are interested, and stimulated, by the activities on offer. However, further development is still needed within the toddlers and first steps.

Some staff have attended behaviour management training which has been cascaded to other members of staff. Support has been provided from the organisation's education officer who specialises in behaviour management.

Regular spot-checks of the daily diary sheets are taking place to ensure that they are being completed correctly. Children in pre-school are being involved with the completion of their forms.

All staff have now attended birth to three matters training and the framework is being used to plan activities for children. Further progress is required.

Some progress has been made in organising space and resources, however, further progress is required.

Dummies are now hygienically stored, all bins have fitted lids and staff are following correct food hygiene practices.

Progress has been made with mealtimes in the under-2's area, but the pre-school room is understaffed at this time.

Training has been addressed to ensure that the SENCO has appropriate knowledge. She meets regularly with the child's key-worker, parents and other agencies to discuss individual children's needs.

No progress has been made with regard to child protection training. This was previously a recommendation and has now become an action.

What is being done well?

- A varied range of stimulating activities are offered to children within the pre-school room. They are interested in the activities available and enjoy their play. They are able to move freely in between rooms, make choices about where they would like to play, and the activities they want to be involved in. This has a positive impact on their behaviour.
- Parents are provided with a regular newsletter which informs them about changes to staff and topics being covered within each of the rooms.

What needs to be improved?

- the ability of the manager to consistently oversee the organisation and day-to-day management of staff
- deployment of staff, particularly over lunch-times
- staff's knowledge to enable them to plan, and implement, a suitable range of activities
- organisation of space and resources, to ensure children have sufficient space to move freely, and are able to access their own resources
- training for staff with regard to child protection as detailed in the company's policy
- artwork and positive images displayed at children's height

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.)

Concerns were raised regarding supervision of children and lack of provision for hygiene purposes relating to Standard 6: Safety.

Ofsted investigated this concern by carrying out an unannounced visit on 6 December 2004. At this visit evidence was found that raised concerns under Standard 1: Suitable Person, Standard 3: Care Learning and Play, Standard 7: Health and Standard 11: Behaviour.

The registered person was served a compliance notice under each of these standards requiring them to meet each of these by 17th December 2004.

A monitoring visit was carried out on 21st December 2004 and continuing concerns were raised to be addressed at the next inspection. Ofsted continues to monitor this provision.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
5	Provide evidence of how you will continue to develop space and resources, so that children can move freely and have sufficient resources which are accessible to them.	17/03/2005
13	Provide evidence of how your child protection policy will be adhered to regarding staff undertaking training on child protection matters.	17/03/2005
1	Provide evidence of how you will continue to ensure that the manager effectively oversees the day-to-day management of staff to ensure that children's needs are met.	17/03/2005
2	Provide evidence of how you will ensure that children have sufficient support at lunch-times, particularly within the pre-school room.	17/03/2005
3	Provide evidence of how you will develop staff's knowledge, enabling them to plan and implement a suitable range of activities for children, particularly in the toddlers and first steps.	17/03/2005

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

Std	Recommendation
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4	Consider how artwork and positive images can be displayed to ensure that they are at within children's line of vision.
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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.