



# The Bungalow Childcare Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY333939
<b>Inspection date</b>	01 March 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Judith Rayner
<b>Setting Address</b>	Netherfield Infant School, Netherfield Lane, Meden Vale, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, NG20 9PA
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<b>Registered person</b>	Pre-School Learning Alliance
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day care

## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Bungalow Children's Centre has been registered since 2006. It operates from a converted caretaker's bungalow which has been extended and refurbished to accommodate children and families from within the local community. It operates from the school campus in the village of Meden Vale, near Mansfield, north Nottinghamshire. Children have access to various rooms within the building and an enclosed outdoor area. The setting is registered to care for no more than 23 children under eight years of age at any one time. There are three staff who all hold a Level 3 childcare qualification. The centre offers a variety of sessions which include full and sessional day care. There are 13 children on role who attend various sessions throughout the week. It operates between the hours of 08:00 to 18:00 and for 51 weeks of the year. It is closed all public bank holidays and for one week during the Christmas holiday period. The setting receives support from the local authority.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted well. This is because the staff have a good understanding and secure knowledge of promoting a clean environment, comply with effective health and safety policies and procedures and, positively raise children's awareness to good practice in personal hygiene. For example, staff encourage children to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. Children are learning why it is important to wash their hands as it washes away the germs. Staff are committed to following the guidance set out in the clearly written policies and procedures. For example, they know to wear gloves and aprons when preparing food and changing nappies. Children are being protected from cross-infection. However, the practice for promoting good hygiene practice is less effective in the baby area. Outdoor shoes are worn where debris is brought on to the floor where babies play. Therefore, babies and young children are more vulnerable to germs. Thorough and appropriate systems in place for the administration of medication, the care of sick children and dealing with accidents ensure children's needs are dealt with effectively and promptly.

Children's dietary needs are met appropriately. They are offered a good range and variety of snacks that promote healthy eating. For example, fruit snack consists of grapes, pear and orange. Portions are of sufficient and adequate quantities. Children enjoy snack time. They are developing their social skills as they sit around the table, wave to each other, point objects out around the room and eat all the food from their plates.

Children benefit from time outside. Outdoor play is planned into the routine of the day, therefore, children experience time outside in the fresh air. They play happily with hoops chasing each other and catching one another with their peers and adults. They are developing their large physical and social skills.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children and parents and carers are warmly welcomed into the setting. Bright, colourful and well maintained displays of children's art work is valued and presented attractively. Parents and carers have access to a good range of information displayed around the setting. Children benefit from the good organisation of the areas within the room they are cared in. For example, the baby area is sectioned off so younger children and non-walkers have a separate area to confidently and independently develop their skills. Children's all round development is promoted because they have opportunities to experience learning through play both inside and outdoors. However, children's safety and development may be compromised because the outdoor area is less inviting and suitable. This is because the decking when wet may be slippery, the grass area is of an uneven surface and the covering around the decking pillars lacks sufficient padding.

Children are developing their independence skills as they self-select toys and activities of their choice. They freely access the well organised toys and resources. This is because staff effectively present activities that are age appropriate, safe and stimulating. For example, children sit

comfortably at the table because the chairs are of an appropriate height for the age and ability of children in attendance. Babies are supported well to access toys. Staff sit with the babies moving the boxes full of toys so babies can independently reach in and choose a toy of their choice.

Hazards and risks to children are minimised because staff undertake risk assessments on a daily basis. Children are sufficiently protected. This is because staff have a good understanding of the health and safety policies and procedures and are skilled in implementing them in the setting. For example, staff follow the clear procedures for the security of the building. They monitor who has access to and from the building as well as encouraging all visitors to also sign the visitors book for the internal play area. Children are supervised effectively according to their age, ability and the activity they are undertaking. For example, children spilt water from the bath activity and staff quickly wiped up the water. Staff explained to the children why they were mopping up the water so that they do not slip. Children are learning to understand about their own safety. Children's safety may be compromised when they access the toilet cubicles. This is because the locks on the doors are difficult to manage from the outside should staff need to access a child in the toilet cubical in an emergency.

Children are well protected because staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children. They are very clear in their understanding that their role is to safeguard children. They are knowledgeable about the possible signs and symptoms of child abuse and what appropriate action to take should they be concerned about a child.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the setting. They have fun interacting with adults and playing with the range of good toys and resources that provide opportunities for them to develop their all-round skills. Children are confident to move around the different areas within the crèche room. For example, one child opened the gate to the baby area, played with the skittles, then moved back into the main play area to play in the home corner. Children are curious and confident to investigate from an early age. For example, a baby accessed the box containing a good range of investigative toys. The baby confidently reached in to the box and pulled out the shaker and started mouthing the toy. Children play appropriately according to their age and stage of development. Babies play alone alongside their peers and older children occasionally interact sharing flannels when bathing the dolls. Children enjoy their social time. They happily concentrate and engage in story time and particular enjoy 'Things that go' story. They point out the characters and objects on the pages and are eager to share their excitement with adults. Children are developing their communication and confidence skills.

Children's individual learning is monitored effectively. They are given a good range of play opportunities to support their next steps in learning. This is because staff are skilled in identifying their individual learning needs through assessments and observations of their development and then plan the play linking with the 'Birth to three matters' framework. For example, a baby is learning to pull themselves up to a standing position. Staff plan the play and activities to support the baby to develop by providing equipment to help the baby progress, such as, using furniture and fixed low level climbing apparatus suitable for very young children.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

The individual needs of children are met well. This is because the staff are effective in finding out about the child before it starts and continually work closely with parents and carers to ensure that they maintain a high level of support for the child. An effective key worker system is in place to support the child. Staff work closely with the parents and carers to discuss any concerns, changes in behaviour and the how the child is progressing in its development. Children have access to a sufficient range of resources that positively reflect people from around the world through books, jigsaw puzzles and dressing up. They are learning about different religious and cultural festivals through activities, such as, making Diva lamps for Diwali and Chinese lanterns for Chinese New Year.

All children are included. There are sufficient systems in place to meet the needs of children with special needs and or who have learning difficulties. Staff undertake home visits before the child starts so that appropriate measures are in place to meet the individual needs of the child. Resources and equipment are adapted to ensure that children reach their full potential.

Children's behaviour is good. They are learning about the boundaries and expectations, what is acceptable and what is not. This is because staff understand and comply with clear policies and are effective in implementing the procedures. Therefore, children are given clear and consistent messages encouraging them to feel secure in the care they receive. Children are constantly praised. Staff acknowledge good behaviour and achievements. They use positive words, such as, 'good boy' and 'well done' when children turn the taps off after washing their hands and sitting nicely at the table.

Staff acknowledge the importance and benefits in building good relationships with parents and carers. They are approachable and encourage parents and carers to feel happy knowing that their child is having fun, developing their skills and are safe. Information is exchanged on a regular basis in a variety of ways. Children benefit from this as it identifies their individual needs because staff are proactive and committed to meeting them.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

There are good systems in place to ensure that children are not left alone with adults who are not vetted. Staff are checked for their suitability, hold an appropriate qualification and have had sufficient experience before they are employed to work in the setting. Therefore, children are effectively protected because the staff who are employed at the setting are suitable. Children are very well supported. This is because staff effectively deploy themselves encouraging children to engage in play to learn and develop their skills. Children are familiar with the routine of the session. For example, they know to wash their hands before they have their morning snack. Staff work extremely well as a team. They acknowledge each others skills, have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities and use them effectively to promote a sound learning and fun environment for children.

A good range of policies and procedures that underpin the setting ensures that it runs smoothly and safely to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. Records are accurate and well maintained and information is shared on a need to know basis. Records and documentation is held securely. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

## **THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE**

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### **WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?**

#### **The quality and standards of the care**

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- further improve the practice to promote good hygiene practice
- further improve the safety of children when they use the toilet
- further improve the suitability of the outdoor play area.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)