



Busy Bees at James Paget Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY304521
Inspection date	07 November 2005
Inspector	Susan Cox
Setting Address	Lowestoft Road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, NR31 6LA
Telephone number	01493 452900
E-mail	
Registered person	Busy Bees Childcare Ltd
Type of inspection	Integrated
Type of care	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.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE AND NURSERY EDUCATION

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.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are good.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Busy Bees at James Paget Day Nursery is a well established nursery that was registered to Busy Bees Childcare Ltd in April 2005. It operates from self-contained premises in an accommodation block on the James Paget hospital site in Gorleston. All children have access to the enclosed outdoor play area. A maximum of 38 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.30 to 17.30 for 50 weeks of the year.

There are currently 106 children aged from 10 months to under 5 years on roll. Of these 34 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area due to priority for places being given to the children of the hospital staff. The nursery currently supports a number of children with special needs, and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 13 staff of whom 12, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is promoted because they are cared for in an environment which encourages good health and hygiene practices. Well used routines throughout the nursery ensure children are protected from the spread of infection. Children learn the importance of washing their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Attractive table cloths are used to make sure tables are appropriate for serving snacks and meals. Should a child become unwell at the nursery, there are good procedures in place to advise parents and seek advice or treatment. Babies and children can rest when they need. Several of the babies sleep comfortably in cots in the sleep room. Some children sleep in buggies within the playroom. This does not allow them to rest comfortably and restricts the space available for the other children to play.

Children have lunches prepared by the hospital kitchen which also caters for special dietary needs. There is a lack of variety to the desserts which often feature jelly, ice cream, mousse or yoghurt. Morning and afternoon snacks are supplied by the nursery and include fresh fruit and savoury items with sweet biscuits frequently being served. Parents supply a packed tea which often contains a variety of snack items. Fresh water is not readily available for all children to be able to have a drink as they wish. Overall, the children have limited opportunities to make healthy eating choices.

Children enjoy taking part in a range of physical activities in the enclosed outdoor play area. This is used twice each day by most of the children, weather permitting. They run, climb, ride, play with a range of small equipment and love joining in circle and action games with the staff. Babies spend time in the fresh air whenever possible. In fine weather a blanket on the grass enables the youngest to have supervised freedom of movement and being taken for a walk in the buggy or watching the older children at play keeps them happy in the fresh air. Older children are learning about how to use their bodies and the safe use of equipment.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children feel welcome as they enter the premises which are made attractive for them with creative displays of their work and informative posters. However, the premises are showing signs of age with chipped paintwork and carpets that are wearing out. A

new nursery is currently being constructed to be occupied in the spring. Children play with a range of resources appropriate to their stage of development and staff make sure they are safe. Some of the resources are not well maintained, for example, children playing the shopping game are told that the sauce piece is missing so they cannot complete it and children doing mosaic puzzles are told to find another shape for the head as there are not enough circles. This is disappointing for the children who are not able to complete the task despite their hard work.

Children's safety is promoted as staff conduct risk assessments and take the relevant action to minimise risks. They ensure children are supervised at all times and have a secure collection procedure so that children are only released into the care of authorised persons. Fire drills are regularly practised so all are aware of how to leave the premises quickly in an emergency and additional help is given to the evacuation of the babies. Staff have a sound understanding of child protection procedures and management follow company procedures regarding reporting concerns to make sure children remain safe.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and settled in the nursery. They are making good progress being sensitively supported by a well qualified team of staff. The "Birth to three matters" framework has been introduced and staff are undertaking training to implement this more fully to meet the needs of the children.

Babies receive lots of cuddles from staff who know them well. They are able to respond to their needs continuing the care routine agreed with the parents and developing their sense of security. Babies enjoy a range of activities that help them make good progress. Communication skills are developing as they learn that staff will respond appropriately to the sounds they make, their facial expressions and what they do.

Children greet their friends and staff as they arrive. They eagerly join in the range of activities, understanding the routines within the rooms and being confident to make many of their own choices and help organise their play. Children are developing a sense of caring and responsibility for others, for example, a young child tries to feed another and is supported by staff to do so safely. All children are learning right from wrong in a supportive environment.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff generally work well as a team, are qualified and have a clear understanding of the Foundation Stage. Planning is being developed with the starting point for many topics being the children's interests, for example, Mr Men, people who help us and festivals. Staff take part in weekly planning sessions. This is coordinated by the deputy manager, as she is busy with the inspection, there are no plans for the week. They decide that they will have a free week with staff considering what the children are interested in and providing spontaneous art activities. This generally works well but, at times, there is a lack of

focus for the children and some staff are not certain what they hope the children will learn from the activities. Staff make good use of the Learning Story to record children's progress and map out the next steps in their learning for them to continue to make progress.

Children are interested and eager to learn taking part in a range of activities with confidence. They are learning how to look after themselves as they manage their personal hygiene, put coats and shoes on, find their painting aprons and understand they need to listen to staff to help them stay safe when out to play. They are making friends and confident in the care of the staff knowing that they will be supported. For example, a child explains he has forgotten to bring his packed tea and is reassured that this will not be a problem. Children frequently count as they find out how many are present; the items on the shopping list, count on to find the date and find out how many more buttons they need when matching buttons to pictures. They measure out the ingredients for cookery and find out about volume as they fill differing sized containers with sand or water.

Learning about the wider world is interesting as they: meet the firefighters and explore the fire engine; get to know the policeman and how he can help them; find out about caring for their teeth from a dental nurse and how to care for animals from the vet. A parent helps them learn about Diwali and foods that are included in the celebrations. Collecting items for the Salvation Army enables them to contribute to people less fortunate than themselves. They find out about the local environment as they go for nature walks; collect leaves, autumn fruits, study worms and snails and get really excited at discovering and playing in the snow.

Children relish the time they spend playing in the fresh air and using their bodies in a range of physical activities. This links well to the project about their bodies and the five senses as they notice changes brought about by exercise. Free craft and planned activities introduce them to a wide range of resources and they concentrate well on finding out how to use new tools. For example, they study the patterns that are made by the combs they use for painting and sprinkle their pictures with glitter taking pride in what they create. Music is explored as they play a range of instruments, sing songs and move to a wide variety of action rhymes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children receive a warm welcome and take part in the full range of activities being supported by staff who are keen that they should make good progress and develop self-esteem. They are learning about the wider community and to value the diversity of people that make up our society enabling them to treat everyone with understanding and respect. Children are well behaved and polite. They share and take turns helping each other at times and responding appropriately to the staff. This positive approach fosters children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

The partnership with parents and carers is good. All children benefit from the positive partnership which starts with the initial enquiry where parents receive clear information about the nursery. There is a personal introduction from the staff and a

flexible settling in procedure to ensure that parents and staff are well informed and the children happy. The effective exchange of information enables babies to settle quickly being supported by staff that understand and follow their home routines whenever possible. Parents and staff, throughout the nursery, have a relaxed relationship with an effective exchange of information to promote the welfare of the children and encourage parents to understand and contribute to their learning. The nursery has established a system to respond appropriately to parent's complaints.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care and welfare is promoted by the effective use of clear recruitment procedures to appoint staff who are well qualified and suitable for their role with many holding qualifications above the required level. They are appropriately deployed and display good teamwork to meet the needs of the children and to work with parents. Comprehensive induction procedures ensure staff and students have a clear understanding of their responsibilities and this is further supported by training and appraisal being used effectively to promote personal development. This means the needs of all the children attending are met.

Good use is made of the limited space within the nursery. Children are content within their base rooms and enjoy the regular opportunities to play outside. They are well supported as they make visits to the other rooms to see siblings or in preparation for moving to the next age group. Record keeping is generally good but the operational plan and policies and procedures are not readily available to parents for them to understand how the nursery operates.

Leadership and management are good. Children benefit from the professional support senior staff give to their teams. They have provided continuity through the changes of ownership to ensure the needs of the children and parents continue to be met. They welcome the assistance of the link teacher as they continue to develop their service and are currently looking at ways to further develop the learning for the children under the age of three.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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.

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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):

- review the provision of snacks and meals to further promote healthy eating and ensure fresh drinking water is readily available at all times
- further develop the range of activities for the younger children, for example, by using 'Birth to three matters'
- make the operational plan available to parents.

The quality and standards of the nursery education

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

- continue to develop planning so that plans are drafted in advance to be readily available for all staff and to ensure they understand what they expect children to learn from activities.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk