

Kidsunlimited Nurseries - Bickley

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY399366
Inspection date 28/01/2010
Inspector Denys Rasmussen

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Type of setting Childcare on non-domestic premises

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Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

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Description of the setting

Kidsunlimited Nursery in Bickley is one of a chain of nurseries run by Kidsunlimited. It operates from a purpose built building in a residential area of Bickley, Kent. The nursery operates from a number of base rooms with dedicated nappy changing areas and toilet facilities. There are separate staff facilities, a relaxation/parents room, a studio for music and movement and group work, a laundry room, kitchen and a milk kitchen. All children have access to an enclosed secure outdoor play area which includes rubber soft play surfacing, artificial child friendly grass and an amphitheatre.

The nursery opens from 7:30am to 6:00pm for 52 weeks of the year, excluding Bank holidays. The nursery is registered on the Early Years register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare registers; they may care for 88 children in the early years age range at any one time. There are currently 72 children in the early years age range on roll. There are currently 18 staff working with the children including the manager, of these, 14 hold recognised childcare qualifications. The nursery also employs a chef and a housekeeper. The nursery is easily accessed and has a lift available.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children's welfare and learning is successfully promoted. All children make good progress and settle well into the stimulating, supportive and warm environment. The nursery works well with parents, other settings and agencies to ensure that children's individual needs are known to enable them to get the support they need. The leadership have a clear vision that supports the passionate and motivated staff to effectively identify both their strengths and weaknesses. This enables them to make further progress based on what they have accomplished so far. Children are very well safeguarded and are able to play safely and securely because of the effective procedures, excellent quality play resources, and inclusive well designed environment.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- create an environment rich in print where children can learn about words, for example, using names and labels that include words from different home languages, and invite parents and other adults to contribute.
- develop the planning to enable any gaps in learning to be more clearly identified.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Robust policies, vetting systems and procedures are clearly understood by the staff and ensure a strong emphasis is placed on safeguarding children. All the required records are well maintained and the nursery is organised with effectively deployed staff. The thorough risk assessment procedures both for the nursery and outings means children are able to play safely. The children understand how to evacuate the premises safely because the staff regularly practise this with them. Eight members of staff are trained in first aid to ensure that children receive appropriate care in the event of an accident. The nursery is well resourced with good quality equipment and play resources and exudes a professional, safe and caring atmosphere.

The senior staff have a good understanding of the provision and a clear sense of purpose about what it is they want to achieve. There are effective self-evaluation systems in place that have enabled the whole staff team to identify weaknesses and put improvements in place; this is helped by information from parents and early years consultants. For example, they have implemented a suggestion box because of a parent's comment, changed their daily information forms to include parents' comments so that information is a two-way event. They have reorganised the rooms because of the changing needs of the children and after evaluating how it is working. For example, putting the painting easel nearer the sink so that children can more easily wash their hands afterwards. Staff development is encouraged and attendance on training to up-date their knowledge base facilitates continuing improvements.

The nursery actively promotes equality of opportunity and works with parents and other agencies to support and meet children's individual needs. Positive images, welcome signs and photographs around the nursery give children and families a sense of belonging and of being valued. Parents receive comprehensive information about all aspects of the nursery through newsletters, nursery brochure, parents' notice boards and daily information about their child both verbally and written. The office area is open so that key staff can greet parents and children on arrival. There is a comfortable parent room for parents use with information about the nursery's policies and procedures available.

The effective communication systems in place such as the 'day in the life' form informs parents what activities their child has participated in, routines, key observations, and comments for parents to contribute to, which because of the two-way flow of information promotes consistency of care. Parents comment that they have noticed their child's development progressing and gaining in confidence. They value the approachability of the staff, the information received about what their child has done and how they have been at nursery, the good variety of food, friendly atmosphere, flexible and good settling in procedure, the understanding of their child's individual needs and the clean and purpose built building.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children are secure and have a strong sense of belonging at the nursery. They benefit from routines, equipment and procedures that meet their needs well. The staff are warm and supportive with realistic boundaries. The positive and gentle manner of the staff promoting 'kind hands, kind words and kind feet' encourages the children to behave well and play harmoniously together. Children feel safe and secure at the nursery because they have close, warm relationships with the staff and the nursery and equipment have been designed to minimise the risk of accidental injury. Children are involved in activities to help them look after their own safety. For example, they practice road safety using a Pelican crossing in the outdoor area and the very young children practise climbing stairs on the staircase climbing structure.

There are excellent hygiene procedures in place throughout the nursery. The children often wash their hands because the child sized sinks within the nursery rooms and pictorial guidance encourage this. Liquid soap and paper towels are used and children's bedding is cleaned daily, reducing the risk of cross contamination. A housekeeper is employed by the nursery, ensuring staff spend most of their time working directly with the children. Children are offered a variety of healthy meals prepared by the nursery chef who ensures children's specific dietary needs are met and that meals are nutritionally balanced. Activities such as having a healthy tea party help children to understand which foods are good to eat to keep them healthy. Children have access to water at all times. The children engage in activities to promote a healthy lifestyle, such as cooking from fresh produce and enjoying daily physical activity both indoors in the dance studio and outdoors in the imaginative garden in all weathers.

Observations of each child are used to inform the planning. This incorporates their interests and their needs. For example, one child needs the focus to be on settling in and making attachments and another is very interested by action rhymes. The planning systems are currently being developed to enable any gaps in learning to be more clearly identified. Babies are very confident and happy and it is evident they are secure and well attached to their key person. Staff sit and play with them, interacting in a warm and supportive manner, cuddling and reassuring them often. The babies crawl around exploring the resources, singing and making noises. Staff respond to their communication and gestures with eye contact and smiles, talking and singing to them and being playful.

The attractive displays which include photographs of the children engaged in the activity support a sense of pride and achievement, however the environment has not yet been fully exploited to be rich in print where children can learn about words that also include words from different home languages. Children search for and count the treasure they find in the sand tray and go on a mini beast hunt. When children complete simple programmes on the computer they learn about recycling. There are a good variety of resources to encourage sorting, counting and matching and to make and recognise shapes and patterns. Language development is supported well through story telling, discussion, role play and

singing. Children enjoy experimenting in the water tray learning about volume and enjoy cooking activities, learning to take turns and measure the ingredients. Children are offered opportunities to experiment with a variety of textures such as custard, sand, play dough and finger painting and design their own creations in the art and craft area.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met