



Children 4 Most At Flowery Field

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY309608
Inspection date	28 November 2005
Inspector	Elaine Murray
Setting Address	Hyde Flowery Centre, Old Road, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 4SN
Telephone number	0161 351 9675
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Registered person	Children 4 Most Private Day Nursery Limited
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?

Children 4 Most At Flowery Field is a privately owned day nursery. It opened in 2005 and operates from a Sure Start children's centre. It is situated in Hyde, Tameside. A maximum of 50 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open five days a week from 08.00 until 18.00 all year round. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 58 children aged from birth to under 5 years on roll, 16 of whom

are in receipt of funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area. The nursery caters for children who have special needs and English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 15 staff, of whom 12 staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications and a further 3 staff are working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children show awareness of simple hygienic practices as they wash hands at appropriate times of the day. Staff are vigilant in following hygienic procedures as they change nappies, clean equipment and serve food. This helps to protect children from the spread of germs. A clear sickness policy helps to protect children from the spread of infection. There are established procedures in place for the administration of medication, but these are not consistently followed with regard to the administration of infant paracetamol. This means that children's good health is not ensured.

Children learn to enjoy a healthy diet as they are provided with healthy and nutritious food which is prepared and cooked on the premises. Care is taken to ensure that the menu is balanced and varied and that meals are made from fresh ingredients. Children's particular dietary needs and preferences are well catered for. This helps to promote children's good health. Older children help themselves to drinking water, which is always available. Babies and toddlers are regularly offered water, further promoting their health and development.

Children are developing physical skills and enjoyment of exercise through regular use of outdoor play equipment. Babies are supported and encouraged to progress to their next physical milestone as they are encouraged to crawl, stand or move for toys. Older babies benefit from access to age appropriate climbing equipment to help develop their physical skills. Babies and young children's sleep needs are acknowledged and met, helping to promote their good health.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a very attractive and stimulating environment in which they can feel secure. Children's work is displayed and good quality toys and resources are readily available to the children. This helps to foster children's sense of security and belonging. Rooms are well arranged to provide different areas for play, rest and having meals, including a well equipped sensory play area. Children also have access to other rooms within the centre for creative and physical activities to promote their development. The broad range of toys and equipment are suitable for different ages and abilities, meeting children's needs well. Children develop independence as

they select from the easily accessible equipment.

Satisfactory safety procedures are in place to protect children from hazards and dangers. Staff assess the potential risks of indoor and outdoor equipment and make daily safety checks of the premises, helping to keep children safe. There is an established emergency evacuation procedure but this has not been practiced. This means that children's safety in the event of a fire or emergency is not ensured. Children learn to keep themselves safe as staff talk to them about why they must not run indoors.

Children are protected as staff have a satisfactory knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and are familiar with the procedures to be followed.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are content and happy and have warm relationships with staff. Children's learning is developed well through a wide range of activities. Staff make effective use of the Birth to three matters framework to guide their planning and practice. Children clearly enjoy exploring and investigating using their senses as they explore a glue and corn flour mixture and touch snow. They respond well to regular singing sessions and enjoy exploring different materials in a 'treasure basket'. Children's language is developed well through effective encouragement from staff.

Nursery Education

The quality of teaching and learning is good. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals and this is reflected in their teaching. Planned activities are generally varied and interesting. Children show enjoyment and involvement in most activities provided as staff present them in an interesting manner. Staff make good use of opportunities to develop learning by following children's interests. Children's fascination with snow is developed well as they observe what happens when snow melts and discuss how it feels to touch. Staff know the children well and make regular observations of their learning which they use to inform their day to day teaching. Activities are not planned by the staff who work directly with the children and therefore are not always based on what children already know and can do. At times this limits children's interest and involvement and the effectiveness of their learning. Children co-operate well together in role play. Staff question children effectively to develop their vocabulary and early reading skills. Children learn to count to ten and confidently count in every day situations. They are learning to use mathematical language and to identify shapes. Children are developing proficiency in using technology to support their learning as they confidently make use of an interactive whiteboard. They show a good sense of space as they move round the outdoor play area and show good manipulative skills as they fit rubber bands onto peg boards. Children express themselves creatively using a variety of media. They regularly use musical instruments to explore sound.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children behave well as staff give them plenty of praise and support for their efforts and achievements. All children are included in the activities provided and their individual needs are well met. Staff cater well for children for whom English is an additional language by employing bi-lingual staff to meet their needs. Staff provide appropriate support to children who have special needs. They seek to involve parents and liaise with appropriate agencies to provide support. Children gain awareness of their local environment and the diversity of the wider world through a very good selection of resources and activities that promote positive images. Young children enjoy role play in the 'Sari shop' and older children are involved in activities relating to different festivals such as Diwali. This positive approach fosters children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.

The partnership with parents and carers is good. Parents receive a good level of information about the nursery and the educational provision through an informative brochure and regular newsletters. They are informed about their children's progress through regular parent interviews. Parents views are valued and they are encouraged to be involved in a variety of ways such as sharing their views on potential new staff members by observing them with the children. Parents of younger children are well informed through use of a daily diary. Staff make good use of information requested from parents to meet children's care needs. This good level of communication helps to ensure that children's needs are effectively met.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Most staff are qualified and this has a positive effect on children's learning and welfare. Staffing levels are organised to ensure that they are within the required ratios at all times and that children have a good level of attention and support. The routine of the day is organised to allow all children attending to eat together at lunch and afternoon tea time. This helps to promote children's social skills and sense of belonging. Most policies and procedures are effectively in place and contribute to positive outcomes for children. The complaints procedure has not been updated in line with recent changes to legislation. Space and resources are organised well to promote children's safety, care and learning.

The leadership and management is good. The manager provides positive direction and staff work well together to promote children's welfare, care and learning. Planning is regularly evaluated and monitored. There is a commitment to improvement as staff attend regular courses and seek and act upon advice from an advisory teacher. This has a positive effect on the quality of children's learning.

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

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- ensure that procedures for administering medication are consistently applied, including the administration of infant paracetamol
- ensure that the emergency evacuation procedure is regularly practiced
- update the complaints procedure in line with recent changes to legislation.

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):

- ensure that activities are planned by staff who work directly with children to ensure that they build on what children already know and can do and that children's interest and involvement is consistently sustained.

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:

