



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 405269

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/10/2003
Inspector Name Lynn Clements

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Leapfrog Day Nursery (Braintree)
Setting Address Galleys Corner
Braintree Road, Cressing
Braintree
Essex
CM7 8GA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Leapfrog Day Nurseries (Trading) Ltd 3229362

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Leapfrog Day Nurseries (Trading) Ltd
Address Central Office Second Avenue
Centrum One Hundred
Burton-on-Trent
Staffordshire
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 registered in 2001. It operates from a purpose built unit situated near Braintree off the A120. There are five classrooms divided in two baby rooms, 2 - 3 years and two pre-school rooms situated upstairs. The unit also has staff rooms, laundry area, nappy changing rooms, milk room, kitchens cloakrooms, reception area, office and sensory room plus sleeping areas for the babies. There is a fully enclosed play area available for outside play.

There are currently 108 children from three months to under five years on roll. This includes 37 funded three year olds and 7 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a small number of children with special educational needs.

The setting is open from 07:00 - 19:00 hours five days a week 52 weeks a year.

The group currently employ 22 members of staff 13 of whom hold childcare qualifications to NVQ 2 and NVQ 3. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development Childcare Partnership (EYDCP)

How good is the Day Care?

Leapfrog Day Nursery provides satisfactory quality care for children aged from three months to eight years.

There are good key worker systems set up which provide children with a secure environment. Training standards meet requirements. An induction procedure is in place to ensure continuity of care for children.

Attention to visual displays ensures a bright friendly environment for children and their families. The setting is warm and welcoming, resources are child accessible.

All documentation is securely stored and confidentiality is maintained.

Senior management ensure staff have a consistent approach to risk assessments, which keep children safe. Children's awareness and understanding of hygiene and safety are promoted through daily routines. Opportunities for children to extend personal independence are in place, children pour their own drink and serve themselves at meal times. Dietary requirements are recognised within a carefully planned menu. There is a positive approach to equal opportunities.

Children are supported by staff who praise and encourage them. However, older children wait for extended periods between activities resulting in lack of focus for some.

There are a range of activities provided including a fully enclosed outside play area where children have the opportunity to develop their gross motor skills.

The setting has systems in place to support children with special educational needs. A child protection policy is in place however the procedure requires updating.

Relationships between adults and children are positive. Children are supported by staff who praise and encourage them. However, routines lack opportunity for children to initiate their own play.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents and staff share information on a daily basis. Partnership is further promoted through regular newsletters and parents evenings. The nursery provides clear information to parents about the setting.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection, the group have received the following actions, ensure all members of staff have an understanding of the operational plan, so they can implement policies with particular regard to partnership with parents, toilet and hygiene routines and finally, play planning and appropriate interaction with children. Managers have included this into their staff induction procedures and have held in-house training with existing staff members. Most areas of the action have now been met.

However planning to provide children with activities which meet their individual capabilities and staff interaction with children require further attention.

What is being done well?

- An informative operational plan and effective deputisation ensures continuity for children and staff.
- Senior management ensure staff have a consistent approach to risk assessments and safety procedures, which keep children safe.
- Managers and staff have a proactive approach to 'parents in partnership' ensuring good communication exists and any concerns are addressed. This provides a positive environment for children and their families.
- Children's personal independence is promoted, they are encourage to hang their coats, pour their own drinks and help themselves at meal times.

What needs to be improved?

- planning to provide play opportunities and activities which develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities. This relates to the

over 3 years;

- training in behaviour management;
- contact information in child protection procedure;
- information for members of staff and volunteers regarding procedures to follow if allegations of abuse are brought against them.

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
3	ensure staff plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities. (This refers to children over 3 years)	01/04/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
8	ensure children are provided with regular drinks
11	provide behaviour management training for all staff to ensure a consistent approach when dealing with children's behaviour
13	ensure relevant contact details are included in child protection procedure
13	ensure child protection policy includes information of procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer

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.