



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY268679

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 04/01/2005
Inspector Name Elizabeth Miles Wallis

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Kidsunlimited Nurseries
Setting Address Dalton Lane
Barrow-in-Furness
Cumbria
LA14 4LF

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Kidsunlimited Limited 2102771

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Kidsunlimited Limited
Address Westhead
10 West Street
Alderley Edge
Cheshire
SK9 7EG

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

Kidsunlimited Day Nursery was registered in 2003. It is a privately run nursery owned and registered to a national company who specialise in nursery provision. It is located within the grounds of Furness General Hospital and provides Full Day Care for up to 62 children aged from birth to 5 years. Most places are allocated to children whose parents are employed by Morecambe Bay Health Authority although 20 places are also offered to families in the wider community. Children are cared for in three age related group areas within the building. Regular outdoor play is provided in two enclosed, outdoor areas accessed from the group rooms.

There are at present a total of 52 children on the register who attend a variety of sessions each week. Currently one child with special educational needs and two children who speak English as a second language attend and the nursery is providing funded nursery education places for 6 children.

The Nursery is open Monday to Friday from 07:00 to 19:00 all year round except for bank holidays.

A qualified Manager and Deputy are employed as well as 14 child care staff of whom 10 hold a level 3 child care qualification. The nursery staff receive support from the specialist Kidsunlimited national teams.

How good is the Day Care?

Kidsunlimited Nursery at Barrow in Furness provides good care for children. All aspects of the provision are effectively organised. The staff team are well qualified and experienced and there is a commitment to ongoing staff training and development. Staff receive good support and advice from the management, administration and specialist teams within the Kidsunlimited Company. The premises are spacious, well organised and resourced. The operational plan and documentation are clear and thoroughly maintained and all documents are stored in a confidential manner.

Good health and safety procedures are applied in all areas and staff are vigilant regarding security. The premises are clean and hygienic. Children are provided with nutritious meals and snacks and are encouraged to develop healthy eating patterns. An effective key worker system is in place and staff have detailed knowledge regarding all children's individual needs and most children's cultural backgrounds. A

policy is applied which ensures the positive inclusion of children with special needs. There are clear procedures understood by staff regarding the protection of vulnerable children.

A stimulating activity programme is provided that meets the play and learning needs of all children. Activities are resourced with a wide range of good quality equipment ensuring that babies and children in all groups are able to enjoy variety and choice. Activities are well planned and delivered and the daily programme includes time for relaxation as well as outdoor play. Staff act as positive role models, treat children with courtesy and give praise and reward to promote good behaviour.

Parents are made welcome and have open access to the nursery. They are supplied with good information regarding policies and activities and also regarding their children's development and progress. Care is taken to ensure that children are looked after in accordance with parent's wishes.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The nursery has a high standard of organisation. The policies and procedures are linked to the Kidsunlimited in-house 'model nursery' quality assurance system. The policies are effectively applied and staff follow the procedures with care.
- The premises are well maintained and provide a welcoming, quality environment for the children. The rooms are light and warm. They are resourced with child sized furnishings and low partitions which enables flexible and varied lay out of rooms. A calm and pleasing atmosphere is maintained by the playing of soothing background music and the burning of 'essential' oils.
- The range and quality of childcare and activities is good. Each group room has its own programme and child care system which meets the needs of the respective age range. Babies are, for example, provided with the opportunity to explore and discover through heuristic play and a simple signing system is used with them to aid communication and reduce frustration. Care of all under 3's is directly linked to the 'Birth to Three Matters' programme. Pre-school children are offered a wide range of stimulating play and learning opportunities.
- A comprehensive range of equipment is available to support the activity programme including a good range of outdoor play items. The equipment is of good quality. The variety of activity equipment meets the needs of all children.
- There is good attention to health and safety issues. Clear systems are in

place which are followed by staff. All staff undergo regular health and safety and first aid training. Children are encouraged to learn about healthy routines and are encouraged to eat healthily through the provision of meals and snacks which include ample fruit and vegetables.

- Care is taken to ensure that children with special needs are offered a service that meets their individual needs. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals to achieve this.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

A variety of unusual learning opportunities are offered. All children are offered simple Yoga activities which all staff are trained to deliver. The pre-school children join in a variety of 'clubs' which supplement traditional pre-school activities by offering, gardening (using a section of the outdoor area), cookery, simple French language and a soccer 'tots' programme which helps children to develop team skills and coordination. (Standard 3).

What needs to be improved?

- The level of staff knowledge regarding children's individual cultural backgrounds to ensure that all differences are acknowledged and valued.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report from 1st April 2004.

Outcome of the inspection

Good

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

Std	Recommendation
9	improve staff knowledge and awareness regarding individual children's

	different cultural backgrounds to ensure that these differences are acknowledged and valued.
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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.