



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 160975

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/11/2003
Inspector Name Pauline Nazarkardeh

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Woodlands Nursery
Setting Address 1-3 Orchard Road
Barnet
Hertfordshire
EN5 2HL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Child Base Limited 2418535

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Child Base Limited
Address Kingston House, Northampton Road
Newport Pagnell
Buckinghamshire
MK16 8NJ

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

Woodlands Nursery has been registered since 2001. It operates from two converted Edwardian houses, which have been knocked through to create one large space. A garden is available for outdoor play. The nursery is situated in a quiet residential road; a few minutes walk from the busy shopping area of High Barnet.

The nursery operates Monday through to Friday, from 08:00 - 18:00 hours, all year round. The nursery is registered to care for 50 children from the age of 6 weeks to 5 years. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with special needs, and who speak English as an additional language.

Sixteen full and part time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP)

How good is the Day Care?

Woodlands Nursery provides satisfactory care for children. Generally staff know and understands the children they care for and ensure children's individual needs are met. The childcare practice in the 1 - 2 year old group is less secure. Activities are not inviting and the environment is not organised to meet the needs of the age group. As a result the children are less settled and the different stages of development are not being catered for.

The staff show a good understanding of how to provide a safe environment for children, however the safety of the garden area has not been maintained. The premises generally are warm and welcoming and provide space for children to play. The manager holds responsibility for child protection issues, all staff receive training as part of their induction, after which their knowledge and understanding of the training is assessed.

Generally there is a good range of toys and equipment available and accessible to children. The range and quality of activities offered is good and on the whole staff show a good knowledge of individual children's interests and stages of development. They provide interesting opportunities for children to develop and learn. Children's independence and respect for each other is encouraged, this could be extended more at meal times.

Parents are provided with written information about the nursery in the form of policies and procedures. Staff spend time exchanging information with parents about their children each day and there are regular parents evenings as well as a parents forum.

Documentation is well organised with established systems in place to record and hold written records. The system to record children's arrival and departure times is not effective. The information needed from parents to provide care, which meets each child's individual needs, is in place.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection three actions were made regarding child protection, provision for children under 2 years of age and organisation of sleep time. The issue of child protection has been addressed effectively, the actions relating to sleeping and provision for younger have been partially met.

What is being done well?

- The physical environment for children over 2 years of age is well laid out, clean and welcoming, with specific areas defined for different activities.
- Staff are warm and responsive to the children, they follow the children's lead and are interested in what they say and do.

What needs to be improved?

- The organisation of the 1 - 2 year old group room and the range of toys and activities available to the children
- The arrangements for maintaining the outdoor play areas
- The arrangements for mealtimes to encourage children's independence
- The systems for ensuring the safety of uncollected children from the nursery.

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	provide a suitable range of toys and activities, in order to meet the developmental needs of children aged from 1 to under 2 years.	13/02/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
2	Develop the policy for uncollected children
5	ensure that suitable furniture and equipment is available to meet the needs of children from 1 – 2 years of age.
6	ensure that the garden is maintained safely and conduct a risk assessment on the garden identifying action to be taken to minimize identified risks.
8	put in place a system to develop children's independence at meal times

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.