



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY293578

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/02/2005
Inspector Name Suzette Butcher

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Kids Unlimited at Callands
Setting Address Gresford Close
Callands
Warrington
Cheshire
WA5 9UY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Kidsunlimited Nurseries 2102771

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Kidsunlimited Nurseries
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

Kids Unlimited at Callands is one of 45 nurseries run by Kids Unlimited and provides full day care and out of school care. It opened in 2004 and operates from eight rooms in purpose built premises. It is situated in the Callands area of Warrington close to motorway networks. A maximum of 84 children may attend the nursery at any one time and no more than 16 children may attend out of school care. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:00 to 19:00 for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to secure outdoor play areas.

There are currently 154 children on roll from birth to 8 years for nursery places. Of these 60 children receive funding for nursery education. There are currently 24 children on roll who attend before and after school care and holiday care. Children come from a wide catchment area and the nursery also serves the local community. The nursery supports a number of children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 28 full and part-time staff. Over half the staff hold appropriate early years qualification and 9 are working towards a qualification. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Kid's Unlimited at Callands provides good quality care for children. The provision implements effective settling in procedures which allow staff to develop warm relationships with the children to help them feel safe and secure. Children are grouped according to age and development. Space is organised well to meet the needs of children. There is a good range of play materials and equipment to promote learning and development with some omissions in out of school care.

Documentation is in place but does not always consider the wide age range in out of school activities. Policies and procedures are accessible to staff and parents and reviewed on a regular basis.

The nursery is welcoming for children and families with attractive tactile displays, children's work and information boards. Close attention is paid to safety both inside the nursery and in the fully enclosed outdoor play area. Staff exercise good health and hygiene practices and healthy eating is actively promoted. Staff have a clear understanding and knowledge of procedures and policies regarding child protection, promoting diversity and the identification and care of children with additional needs.

Children are happily and actively engaged in a variety of age appropriate activities. Staff plan well and understand ways to promote children's development although next steps in learning are not clearly identified. They create imaginative and interesting opportunities to meet the needs of individual children. Children are well behaved and are aware of the set boundaries. They respond positively to regular praise and encouragement from staff and become confident and independent in all areas of daily life.

Positive relationships have been formed with parents. Effective systems are in place to keep parents informed about the provision and their child's development. Parent questionnaires indicate a high level of satisfaction with the quality of care provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Children have fun and enjoy imaginative play activities that are linked to current themes and curriculum areas. Children explore the properties of jelly, ice cubes, wet and dry pasta or cheese tasting. Breakfast and gardening clubs provide cross curricular opportunities, promote diversity and increase awareness of the wider world. An interesting and stimulating variety of tactile and sensory opportunities are provided in all areas with low level resources, treasure baskets, heuristic or messy play. Communication is given high priority throughout the nursery and is enhanced with signs, gestures, facial expressions and hugs. Relaxation is promoted in baby massage and yoga.
- Children develop confidence and self esteem in the calm environment where all staff offer praise and encouragement on a consistent basis. Independence is promoted with low level sinks, coat hooks and tissue holders and older children serve each other at meal times. Children learn to share, take turns and respect each other from an early age. They are encouraged to make choices in play and learning and confidently participate in adult led activities or initiate imaginative play sequences.
- There is an effective partnership with parents with a wealth of information on policies and procedures available. Newsletters and noticeboards keep parents informed of events and themes. Children benefit from the continuity of care and transfer of information between staff and parents. "A day in the life" sheets and three monthly reports on " How's it going?" are provided and parents are invited to contribute. Parents attend " Moving on up evenings" with information on curriculum organisation. Parents are welcome to visit or phone at any time in an open house policy.
- Staff work together well as a team and are aware of roles and responsibilities. Induction procedures are thorough and create a sound knowledge base. There are effective mentor systems and performance reviews in place.

What needs to be improved?

- the identification of next steps for individual children in the assessment cycle
- the resources and opportunities for out of school care
- the consideration of out of school care in behaviour policies and procedures.

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.

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
3	Ensure that next steps for individual children are identified in the assessment cycle.
5	Increase the resources and opportunities for out of school care.
11	Include out of school care in behaviour policies and procedures.

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.