



Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC121
Inspection Date	23 March 2010
Childcare Inspector	Kim Weaver
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Tiny Tots Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Müthers Kamp 138/2 Avenwedde 33335 Gütersloh
Type of Care	Full day care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

British Forces Early Years Service is granted with accreditation by the Secretary of State for Defence for regulating childcare provision for Crown Servants overseas, in accordance with the criteria set out in the Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 2002.

The purpose of this inspection is to assure the Ministry of Defence (MOD), parents and the public of the quality of child care.

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 and the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The report includes information on any complaints about childcare provision which British Forces Early Years Service (BFEYS) has received since 1st January 2006.

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 booklet "Are you ready for your inspection" which is available from BFEYS.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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 daycare and childminding.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Tiny Tots Day Nursery operates from a ground floor flat located in a married quarter estate. Children have access to three playrooms, toilet facilities and a secure outdoor play area. The nursery serves the needs of families of military personnel from the surrounding residential area.

The nursery is registered to provide 16 places for children aged 12 months to 4 years. It opens five days a week during school term time only from 9.00 to 13.00.

The nursery is managed by the Army Welfare Service.

The manager is supernumerary and has a level 3 qualification in early years. There are five practitioners, one of whom holds a level 2 qualification. The setting employs regular supply staff to cover for absences.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is **good**. Children are very well cared for in a warm, clean, well organised and welcoming environment where their good health is effectively promoted. Consistent adult support and guidance helps children to gain an understanding of the importance of simple good hygiene practice and to become increasingly independent in their personal care through the daily routine; for example, children brush their teeth after meals and wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. However, the hand washing routine for the younger children needs to be reviewed, as the lengthy procedure could affect the effectiveness of the practice. Children benefit as staff act as positive role models and make consistent use of regular routines to support and reinforce good hygiene practice; for example, staff ensure they wear gloves and aprons when providing intimate care, nappies are disposed of hygienically and changing mats disinfected after each use. Additionally paper towels are used to dry hands; children have their own individual flannels to wash their face after eating to ensure there is no risk of cross infection.

Children are well looked after if they have a minor accident or become ill as effective policies and procedures are implemented; the majority of staff have received training in paediatric first aid which means they are well prepared in the event of an emergency. Documentation for the recording of accidents and the administration of medication is appropriately maintained.

Children are provided with healthy and nutritious snacks; this ensures they are well nourished and their dietary needs are met appropriately; snack menus are devised to ensure fruit and vegetables are offered each day. Parents provide packed lunches which are stored safely in the refrigerator. Drinks are always available indoors and outdoors. Detailed lists of children's specific dietary requirements and food allergies are displayed in each room. Mealtimes are happy, social occasions when staff sit and chat with the children, thus encouraging good interaction and social development. Younger children show increasing independence by being encouraged to pour their own drinks and use appropriate cutlery.

Children enjoy a wide range of outdoor activities which support and help develop their physical skills. Children have access to a secure outdoor play area where they enjoy running around, playing with balls and using the slide, trampoline and climbing apparatus. Babies are provided with a good range of toys and play equipment to encourage crawling, standing, pushing and pulling, which helps to develop co-ordination and control.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them to stay safe

The provision is **good**. Children are cared for in safe and secure premises where attractive displays of children's artwork and mounted photographs of children and members of staff help to create a friendly and welcoming environment. Children's safety is effectively promoted; they are supervised at all times and able to move freely and independently access a wide range of resources and equipment; for example, toys are stored at child height in a variety of containers clearly labelled with words and pictures, which promotes freedom of choice. Children are well protected because the nursery has good safety procedures in place which are understood and effectively implemented by all staff; for example, detailed risk assessments are regularly conducted and safety checks of the facilities and resources are carried out each day, prior to children's arrival. There are effective security systems in place for monitoring access to the provision; a record of

visitors is accurately kept, with staff ensuring visitors do not have unsupervised access to children.

Children's welfare is protected as fire safety is actively promoted and fire fighting equipment is in place and regularly maintained; emergency evacuation drills are regularly practised and recorded appropriately. Children's welfare is further protected as the majority of staff have attended training in safeguarding children and demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and the procedure to follow should they have a concern about a child in their care; there is a designated person who has received specific training in this area.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is **outstanding**. Children are extremely happy, relaxed and content within the environment; they highly benefit from attending a provision where they are provided with an interesting, purposeful and stimulating range of activities and play opportunities which provide high levels of challenge appropriate to their age and stage of development. Children's enjoyment and achievements are significantly enhanced due to exceptionally well planned activities, which ensures that children are provided with rich, varied and imaginative experiences that meet their needs exceedingly well. Long and medium term planning is completed and covers themes and topics that support all areas of learning; weekly plans follow observations of children taking into account their interests and support their learning and development needs.

Staff know the children well and all activities are differentiated to meet individual needs. Comprehensive development files evidence children's progress in all areas. Observations are supported with photographs and examples of children's work. The majority of staff have an excellent awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage and how best to facilitate children's learning, and as a result, children are highly motivated, eager to learn and fully engrossed in their play. Children show confidence and display high levels of self-esteem and curiosity, and have formed excellent relationships with their peers and adults. Children are consistently offered praise and acknowledgement for their efforts and achievements.

Babies and toddlers are extremely relaxed and benefit from being provided with a wide range of suitable activities and resources which meet their particular needs; for example, they enthusiastically move towards a low level table to try new experiences, such as pushing, pulling and turning dials, and giggle with delight when a farm animal appears. Staff respond to children's signs of interest and extend learning through further investigation of the sounds made by the animals. Children's sensory stimulation and social interaction is further enhanced through the exploration of sounds, voices and music; they were observed highly enjoying a musical activity, shaking their instruments with gusto and enthusiastically moving to music. Children learn about facial features as they have great fun imitating a practitioner as she names and points to her eyes and nose through action songs, such as 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes', developing children's awareness of linking language to physical movement. Children laugh infectiously and chuckle until the rhyme is finished.

Children develop their imaginative skills as they engage in various role play situations; for example, they pretend to be characters in their families in the play kitchen making breakfast. Children develop their knowledge of the natural world through various activities such as nature walks and planting seeds to observe the changes of growth. Children have frequent opportunities to practise early writing skills as they are provided with mark making activities developing their manipulative skills when scribbling and colouring.

Children's communication skills are fostered exceptionally well through various activities, including songs, rhymes and sharing books, which encourages children from an early age to become confident speakers and listeners. Staff skilfully encourage children to express themselves through questioning and visual aids such as puppets; children were observed enthusiastically responding during an activity to discussion about feelings.

Children play exceptionally well together, taking turns and negotiating roles. They are highly motivated to access a wide variety of toys and activities which offer appropriate challenge for their age and stage of development and excellent opportunities to make progress in all areas of learning and development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is **outstanding**. Children thrive in a nurturing and highly stimulating environment. They are valued and respected as individuals, are self-assured, confident and have extensive opportunities to develop a positive awareness of their own and the wider community; for example, they discuss their home and family lives, learning how families differ. Furthermore children's sense of belonging is reinforced through displays of family trees depicting photographs of themselves, their parents and grandparents. Children learn about the wider world through sensitively planned play activities which include the celebration of various cultural festivals, such as St David's Day, Chinese New Year, Rosenmontag (German carnival) and Robert Burns' Day. Children's learning and development is further consolidated through purposeful play opportunities and experiences, for example creating daffodils, dragons, cards, and tasting a healthy snack of porridge on Robert Burns' Day.

Children behave and play exceptionally well together, happily sharing the toys and equipment; all children have equal access to imaginative resources and activities, and gain an excellent understanding of the wider world. They are provided with a wide range of multi-cultural artefacts and dressing-up clothes in addition to books and play figures that promote diversity. Posters and welcome notices in different languages adorn the walls and reflect the positive approach adopted by staff to respecting diversity and valuing parents' differing ethnic backgrounds. Children are encouraged to take care of their environment as they tidy away the toys when asked to do so calmly, and smile proudly when praised.

Children with additional needs receive excellent support from dedicated and caring staff, which means they are able to participate fully in the activities provided and make good progress. Additionally, the setting has regular visits from other professionals, such as the speech and language therapist and dental hygienist, to respond effectively to children's needs whilst developing their knowledge and understanding further.

Children benefit from being cared for as individuals, with their needs being discussed in details with parents before they attend the nursery. Parents are extremely happy with the service provided and this is evident from the excellent feedback received on the day of inspection. Parents are kept well informed about the setting's ethos and care practices as they receive a high quality, detailed pack of useful information when their child starts. All policies and procedures are updated regularly to ensure they remain current. Parents are consistently informed about their child's care and progress through daily discussions, six monthly reviews and regular written feedback notes.

Organisation

The organisation is **good**. Children benefit from the well organised room layouts, the

effective safety measures taken and the exciting range of activities and play opportunities available to children. Children are protected as all staff are subject to appropriate recruitment, vetting and induction procedures. This ensures that they are aware of their roles and responsibilities, and confirms their suitability to work with children.

Daily routines combined with effective staff to child ratios help all children to settle well and feel secure. Currently less than half of the staff holds an appropriate qualification; however an action plan is in place outlining how qualification shortfalls will be met. Additionally, the continuing needs of staff are identified and addressed through in-service training. Good contingency arrangements are in place to cover for staff absences; a deputy has been appointed to take charge in the absence of the manager and is due to join the nursery staff after the Easter holidays.

Detailed files and notice boards are available to keep staff and parents informed about different aspects of nursery life. A comprehensive range of policies and procedures, including child protection, behaviour management and equal opportunities is used to inform practice and protect the welfare of the children who attend. All records are kept up to date and stored confidentially. Leadership and management is good. The manager is totally committed to the staff and children and this is reflected in the effective management of the setting. Regular staff meetings offer opportunities to discuss training needs as well as any issues concerning staff's key children. All staff work well together and moral is high.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection it was recommended that the provision improved safety by conducting regular fire drills and to ensure all hazards were incorporated into the risk assessments; all these areas have been addressed and significant progress made in each. Emergency evacuation practices are conducted termly or when a new child or member of staff joins the provision. Records are maintained and fire fighting equipment regularly checked. The premises and all equipment are checked daily for any hazards and recorded appropriately.

Complaints since the last inspection

N/A

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are **good**. The registered person **meets** the National Standards for under 8s daycare and childminding.

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 recommendations:

- Review the organisation of hand washing routines to positively support the needs of children aged one to two years.