



## Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC125
Inspection Date	06/05/08
Childcare Inspector	Kathryn Rodger
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Little Angels Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	15/1 Tannenweg 33428 Harsewinkel
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.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Little Angels Day Nursery operates from a ground floor flat located within a married quarter estate. The nursery serves the needs of military personnel and their families; most parents live within the local area although some travel to access the nursery. There are three themed playrooms, children's toilet and nappy changing room, facilities for snacks and meals, an office, and a secure garden.

The nursery is registered to provide 15 places for children aged between 12 months to under 4 years; there are currently 21 children on roll.

The nursery opens five days a week during term times only from 08.15 to 12.30 with children attending a variety of sessions within these hours. The nursery supports children with special needs.

The provision is managed by the Army Welfare Service.

The staff team comprises five members of staff working with the children including the manager who is supernumerary. The manager and two members of staff are working towards a level 3 qualification in childcare and education and one member of staff holds a level 2.

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## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is **good**. Children benefit from being cared for in a clean and well maintained environment. Children are well looked after if they have an accident and are protected from the spread of infection as staff are first aid trained and follow appropriate health and hygiene procedures; they use disposable gloves when changing nappies and wipe down surfaces after each use. Children learn about good personal health and hygiene practices through the daily routine, such as hand washing and teeth cleaning; learning is made enjoyable as individual hand towels and toothbrush cups are labelled with names and pictures which the children thoroughly enjoy identifying by themselves. However, children's individual care needs are not always effectively met, as some children were observed having to wait for long periods of time to have their nappy changed.

Children are encouraged to develop good healthy eating habits; they receive nutritious snacks daily such as fruit. Children are given the opportunity to develop social skills during mealtimes when staff and children sit round one big table and engage in lively discussions. Children have drinks available to them throughout the day and are reminded to drink when playing outside in the warm weather. Children's dietary needs are addressed as effective arrangements are in place to identify and implement individual requirements.

Children enjoy daily physical activity and are provided with opportunities to develop their large motor skills in a secure outside play area well equipped with climbing frames, balance steps and bikes. Younger children further develop their agility skills as they balance, crawl and climb on the soft play equipment in the under two's play room. Additionally, children enjoy walks in the fresh air around the local community, for example to collect pebbles and visit local amenities.

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

The provision is **good**. Children develop a sense of belonging as children's paintings, photos and art work are displayed throughout the setting, thus creating a warm and welcoming environment. Children benefit as the available indoor space is effectively organised to cater for children of different ages and stages of development, enabling the younger children to safely interact with the older children for group activities. Children are appropriately supervised as staff ratios are maintained to promote safety and learning, and to enable children to move freely and safely around the activities.

Children are happy and content because they are able to make choices in their play and safely access a wide range of resources and equipment. Children under two are provided with appropriate soft toys and sit in highchairs equipped with safety harnesses. Older children sit around child-sized tables and chairs to eat and have a range of easily accessible age and stage appropriate toys for free play. Children are beginning to learn to keep themselves safe, as staff, for example, remind them not to throw sand, to sit down correctly whilst eating and clear away toys after play as to avoid accidental injury.

Children's safety is promoted as effective measures are in place; access to the nursery is closely monitored, safety gates are used appropriately and staff who have not completed vetting procedures are supervised and not left alone with children. Children are kept safe from hazards as adequate steps are taken to promote safety within the setting; regular risk assessments and daily checks of equipment and play rooms are carried out and recorded; children take part in fire drills, however these are not always practised as regularly as planned. Children's welfare is further safeguarded, as there is a trained designated person for co-ordinating child protection issues who is able to support

staff and develop their understanding of their individual role and responsibilities in safeguarding children and of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is **good**. Children are happy and enjoy their time in the nursery. Children benefit from activities which are well planned, based on children's individual developmental stages and the *Birth to Three Matters* framework; this helps them make progress in their emotional, social and intellectual development. Children show interest in the activities provided which are planned around monthly themes such as 'Under the Sea' and include activities such as sea collages and decorating fish shaped biscuits. Children develop positive relationships with staff who are good role models, praise them consistently and have a good understanding of their individual needs. This contributes to their sense of belonging.

Children's emotional wellbeing is promoted as children are encouraged to learn about and express their feelings through activities and projects, for example art work faces labelled "I may be angry but I still have feelings". Children approach staff freely and are reassured with cuddles and kind words if upset or unhappy. Staff continuously observe and assess each child's progress to identify next steps for play and learning; these are recorded in tracker books and individual profile folders.

Children develop confidence and self-esteem as staff ask questions and support children to develop knowledge and acquire new skills; for example learning about shapes to complete puzzles or how to mould sand into castles. Children are given the opportunity to mix with children of different age groups and learn from one another; for example after snack, children take part in imaginative free play and mirror each other's play in the toy kitchen or whilst chatting on mobile phones. This contributes to developing children's confidence and sense of belonging.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is **good**. Children are happy and secure in the setting due to the warm welcome they receive from staff who value each child in their care and provide a positive and supportive environment. Children learn about the wider community during visits from local professionals such as the police or dental nurse and on outings to the local supermarkets and flower shop. Bilingual children and staff attend the setting and share their home language with the use of simple flashcards to help support children's social and cultural development. Children's spiritual and moral development is fostered through the celebration of different festivals and patron saint days.

Children are treated and valued as individuals; children with learning difficulties or disabilities are well supported and appropriate procedures are in place to promote their inclusion; staff take steps to work in partnership with parents and other relevant agencies as and when required; accurate care plans are devised and implemented to meet the specific needs of the children.

Children benefit as staff have a good understanding of behaviour management and are good role models. Children respond well to staff as they are calm, consistent and respond to children with praise and encouragement. Children behave well and play co-operatively together, learning to share and take turns, however some opportunities are missed to promote understanding of positive behaviour during circle time for the younger children.

Children are cared for in an environment which works well in partnership with parents to meet the individual needs of each child; information is gathered from parents at induction; daily information is recorded and exchanged with parents about their child's day at the nursery and termly keyworker meetings are organised. Parents are well informed of policies, procedures and planning of activities through a well organised parents' notice board outside the main door.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is **good**. Children are protected because effective recruitment and vetting procedures are in place; staff who have not completed vetting procedures are clearly identified and not left alone with children. Staff training needs are identified and addressed, three members of staff are currently working towards a level 3 qualification in childcare; however individual training action plans are not accurately updated to detail how minimum required qualifications will be met and in what timescale.

Children are well supervised as adult to child ratios are maintained and the manager is supernumerary, so can assist when required.

All records, policies and procedures are up to date, accurate and well maintained to ensure that children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution are met. Children's records are well maintained and regularly updated; they are stored and shared with parents, respecting confidentiality.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of all the children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection the organisation of mealtimes has been improved to ensure that children do not lose interest and are encouraged to make choices in partnership with parents. Children enjoy snack times as they are a social occasion enjoyed as a full group. Children are offered the opportunity to make healthy choices and staff support and encourage them to take part in these. The setting works in partnership with parents as they are informed of the snack menu on a weekly basis.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints.

## **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:

- ensure procedures for dealing with children's personal care needs take place in accordance with their individual needs and are not part of the nursery routine
- improve staff training action plans to include how minimum qualification requirements will be met and in what timescale.