



Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC126
Inspection Date	9 November 2010
Childcare Inspector	Mrs Fleur Johnston
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Little Chicks Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Block 3A Mansergh Bks BFPO 113
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 Chicks Day Nursery opened in 2000. It is situated on the first floor of a military building located on Mansergh Barracks. The nursery serves the needs of British Service families and civilian employees attached to the local military community.

The nursery is registered to provide care for 38 children under 4 years; of these, not more than 11 may be under 2 years. Little Chicks Day Nursery opens from 08.45 to 15.00, Monday to Friday, during school term times only. Parents are provided with the choice and flexibility for their child to attend part of the day or full day. There are currently two children attending who have special needs; two children speak English as an additional language.

The nursery is co-ordinated by the Army Welfare Service. The staff team comprises 15 members; seven work full-time, five part-time and three are supply staff. The manager, the deputy and four practitioners are qualified at level 3 and two practitioners at level 2. Currently four members of staff are working towards level 2 and level 3 qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy.

The provision is **good**. Children are cared for in a clean environment where good hygiene procedures are implemented; staff wear disposable gloves and aprons when changing nappies and follow stringent procedures to keep the premises clean, therefore minimising the spread of infection. Children stay healthy and develop an increasing awareness of good hygiene practices; for example they routinely wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet; children also brush their teeth after mealtimes encouraging independence.

Children are adequately nourished in the setting as they are provided with healthy snacks, such as rice pudding with raisins and fresh fruit is always available as an alternative. Lunch is provided by parents and safely stored in the fridge in individually named boxes. Children have access to fresh drinking water throughout the session. Meal times are sociable and friendly occasions, as staff sit and chat with the children. Children's dietary requirements, preferences or food allergies, are taken into consideration; details are meticulously recorded and all staff clearly made aware of.

Children have good opportunities to play in the fresh air at least once a day. Children are able to run around freely and use a wide range of outdoor equipment; younger children are wrapped up warm and taken out in buggies for local walks. Additionally, children have opportunities to develop their physical skills indoors; they dance to music and enjoy playing on appropriate equipment such as small climbing frames, therefore promoting their physical wellbeing. Children are provided with adequate facilities to rest and sleep according to their individual needs. Sleeping children are regularly monitored and details recorded.

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

The provision is **good**. Children are cared for in safe and welcoming premises with children's artwork attractively displayed. Children are provided with a good range of toys, play materials, furniture and equipment which promote their overall development and are suitable for their purpose whilst helping to create an accessible and stimulating environment.

Children are kept safe from unwanted visitors as effective systems are in place for managing access; all visitors sign in and out. Good procedures are in place to ensure that children are only collected by persons who are authorised to. Children are beginning to learn about fire safety and what to do in the event of an emergency, as regular fire practices are carried out; fire fighting equipment is appropriately checked. All staff are made aware at induction of the correct procedures to follow and where all emergency exits are located.

Children are able to play in a safe environment because daily safety checks are carried out before children enter the premises, and risk assessments are reviewed regularly. Broken toys or equipment are discarded ensuring children's wellbeing.

Children are well protected from harm; thirteen members of staff have attended child protection training and a designated member of staff has been nominated. Staff are confident of the procedure to follow should they have a concern about a child. Children benefit from being cared for by an experienced staff team which includes thirteen fully vetted members.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is **good**. Children are happy, confident and settled within the setting. They arrive eager to join in with the activities which they are encouraged to self-select from a good and stimulating range attractively set out before the children arrive. Children's self-esteem and confidence is promoted as they benefit from being looked after by well qualified and experienced staff who effectively guide and encourage children to join in with the activities. Children enjoy playing with sand and water, supported by staff who consistently interact with the children, extending children's vocabulary through repetition of words, such as "rough" and "smooth", therefore developing early language. Children are beginning to learn right from wrong through gentle reminders from staff and activities which help them to show respect and co-operate with others.

Children are encouraged to explore the outdoor environment; they collect various leaves which they then use in a collage, thus enhancing their creative development. Children develop positive relationships with staff and other children through regular social times such as snack time and circle time, when they sit together and interact with one another.

Children benefit greatly by being cared for by staff who are effectively deployed to promote care, learning and play. Children have individual learning journeys which are kept up to date and contain good observations and evaluations which are then used to plan for children's next steps, ensuring that each child's individual needs are met.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is **good**. Children are treated with equal concern and their individual needs are met. Older children are able to play with some resources that reflect positive images of diversity and a display on the wall shows people from various countries; however opportunities for the younger children to learn about the world around them are limited as resources within their playroom are sparse.

Staff are proactive in ensuring that appropriate action is taken to meet children's individual needs, including children with disabilities or learning difficulties. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure that each child's specific needs can be met; all relevant information is gathered and shared appropriately.

Children's behaviour is well managed by staff who are consistently good role models and who understand and comply with the setting's behaviour policy. Children are happy and content, as they are provided with stimulating and challenging activities that keep them focused and interested; staff additionally use effective strategies to encourage good behaviour, such as rewards and praise.

A sound partnership with parents contributes to children's wellbeing and promotes continuity of care. Parents are kept well informed of their child's progress and care routines through daily record sheets, regular newsletters and meetings with their child's keyworker. Parents interviewed during inspection were very happy with the care provided to their child.

Organisation

The provision is **good**. Children benefit from attending a provision where space and resources are effectively organised to maximise children's learning opportunities. Children are protected as robust recruitment and vetting procedures are in place and any adult whose suitability has not been checked is never left unsupervised with children. Children's welfare and safety is promoted because staff are well deployed and display a good

understanding of their role and responsibilities.

Effective induction training is given to all newly appointed staff ensuring they have support in developing their understanding about the way the setting operates and how they fit in. More than half of the staff have a qualification in early years with a further four members working towards an appropriate qualification; any additional training needs are identified and addressed through in-house training.

All documentation required for the safe management of the provision is in place and accurately maintained. The manager is aware that she must inform British Forces Early Years Service of any significant changes.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection, regular checks are now carried out to ensure that children's play materials are safe and maintained in good condition; documentation is accurately kept.

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:

- promote children's health by ensuring that contents of first aid boxes are regularly checked
- increase all children's awareness of diversity by extending the range of activities and resources that promote positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.