



## Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC129
Inspection Date	27/09/07
Childcare Inspector	Mrs Sharon Ralfe
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Totwatchers Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	6/1 & 6/2 Comenius Strasse 33330 Gütersloh
Type of Care	Full Daycare

## 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?

Totwatchers Day Nursery operates from two ground floor flats located within a married quarter estate. The nursery serves the needs of British service families and civilian employees attached to the military community.

The nursery is registered for 29 children from 6 weeks to 3 years.

Totwatchers Day Nursery opens 5 days a week from 08.00 to 17.00, Monday to Friday. Most children attend on a full time basis. There are currently 6 children attending with English as a second language and 3 children with special educational needs.

The nursery is managed by the Army Welfare Service.

Eleven staff currently work with the children and an auxiliary is employed to cover the lunch time period. The manager and deputy hold a level 3 qualification in early years, one member of staff holds a level 2 and one member of staff is working towards a level 3 qualification.

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## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is **good**. Children's good health is promoted because staff implement effective health and hygiene procedures to minimise the risk of infection. For example, they wipe tables and highchairs using anti-bacterial spray before and after meals, nappy changing facilities are hygienically cleaned and staff use disposable gloves when dealing with children's personal care needs.

Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene and are developing good self-care skills through the daily routine; they wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating and brush their teeth after all meals, supported by staff who make this fun by singing "*this is the way we brush our teeth*".

Children's welfare is promoted because staff can respond to accidents appropriately as current first aid certificates are held by several members of staff; parents give written permission for the administration of medicines and consents for emergency advice or treatment are maintained.

Children are appropriately nourished. They have good opportunities to learn about healthy eating because staff provide them with regular drinks and foods that are nutritious and comply with their dietary requirements or preferences according to parents' wishes. Meal times are sociable; staff sit with the children, encouraging them to use good manners whilst engaging them in lively conversation, for example about what they are eating; however, arrangements at snack time could be improved, as children sitting for long periods resulted in some children becoming bored.

Children benefit from a wide range of outdoors physical activities and enjoy running around in the fresh air. They use small equipment, such as balls and hoops and competently manoeuvre wheeled vehicles, stopping and starting and learning how to avoid each other. Children have opportunities to play quietly or to be active, according to their individual needs.

### **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 hazards and risks are identified and minimised. Children are able to move around freely and safely, as staff ensure the environment is safe through daily checks and risk assessments which are regularly carried out and the effective organisation of the space available, both inside and outside. Children are protected from uninvited visitors and cannot leave the building unsupervised, as effective security measures are in place to ensure the safe arrival and collection of children, including the use of passwords; a record is maintained of staff's and children's daily attendance, however, staff need to ensure it accurately shows when all children are present.

Children learn about fire safety as they regularly take part in fire drills and become familiar with the setting's emergency evacuation procedures; fire exits are clearly marked and staff understand their roles and responsibilities in this area, which ensures children's safety in the event of an emergency. Children are kept safe on outings through routine procedures which include obtaining prior written parental permission and making sure that a telephone and contact numbers are readily accessible.

Children are provided with a good range of suitable toys and equipment that are clean and well-maintained. These are appropriately set out to allow children to access them independently within a safe environment.

Children's welfare is promoted and safeguarded because of clear and thorough child protection policies and procedures, which are shared with parents. Staff have a good understanding of how to recognise signs and symptoms of abuse and of the procedures to follow, should they have any concerns.

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

The provision is **good**. Children are happy, settled and well occupied throughout the sessions. They have opportunities to take part in a good selection of suitable activities; they develop independence as they confidently select what they would like to do. Children are interested and involved in the activities provided, supported by staff who effectively interact with them and take an interest in what the children say and do. Close and caring relationships are evident, which helps children develop confidence and a sense of belonging. Babies settle well, as staff provide a calm environment where they feel secure and demonstrate a sense of trust.

Children are motivated to acquire new knowledge and skills in a friendly, calm and stimulating environment where they are highly valued as individuals. Children engage well in conversations with staff and other children, for example they discuss different colours through a group activity whilst making kites. Children's development is further enhanced by specific activities, such as snack time and story time which enable children to develop social skills and independence. Group activities encourage children to play cooperatively, take turns and share. Children are able to express themselves freely through a broad range of activities and resources such as jigsaws, construction, books, musical instruments and creative materials.

Children feel at ease within the nursery because staff know the children well and are responsive to their individual needs, which includes developing children's confidence by praising their efforts and achievements. Staff are developing their knowledge of the *Birth to three matters* framework and use this to plan and provide suitable activities to ensure younger children make progress in all areas of learning and development.

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

The provision is **good**. Children are well cared for and treated equally with respect and understanding by staff who know them well. Children with special needs are well supported and able to make good progress, as effective strategies are in place to identify and address their specific needs. Other professionals are welcomed into the nursery to work in partnership with parents and staff.

Effective systems offer good support to families who speak English as an additional language. Children develop a sense of belonging, the effective keyworker system helps them to feel included and settled. Staff are good role models, they speak to children and each other with respect and children naturally copy them.

Children's good behaviour is consistently reinforced by staff through praise and encouragement. All children are included and play well together as children are learning to share and take turns. Children develop understanding of acceptable behaviour boundaries through gentle reminders and reassurance from staff; as a result, children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered.

Partnership with parents is good, as positive relationships are established with parents to ensure children receive good quality of care. For example parents are warmly welcomed into the nursery at any time; their views are actively sought about their child's needs and interests, not only at initial placement, but thereafter on a regular basis. Staff ensure that all parents know how their child is progressing and are kept informed about all aspects of their child's care through an exchange of information, both written and verbal. This contributes to children's good health, safety,

development and learning. A range of supporting written information is available for parents, such as a parent information pack which includes policies and procedures.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is **good**. Children's care, learning and development are effectively promoted in this well organised provision. Appropriate recruitment and vetting procedures are in place to ensure children are well protected and cared for. Staff work well together as a team, which contributes to the supportive and welcoming environment for both children and parents. Regular staff meetings are held and staff training needs are appropriately addressed. Staff moral is good which enhances the effectiveness of the team to promote children's health, enjoyment and achievement. Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities and the planning and provision of activities promotes children's welfare and meets their needs.

Children develop a secure sense of belonging because the daily running of the nursery is well organised and the effective keyworker system in place ensures that staff know the children well and are able to meet their individual needs. Staff are supported by the manager through meetings, appraisals and encouragement to attend relevant training. All required records, policies and procedures are in place, including a complaints policy; however the daily attendance register is used to record children present but does not accurately show their hours of attendance.

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

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection, hygiene practice has improved; staff wear disposable gloves when changing nappies and ensure the changing mat is cleaned after each use.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

## **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 the daily register accurately records all children present at any period throughout the day and improve the organisation of snack times to ensure children do not lose interest.