



## Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC130
Inspection Date	19 March 2008
Childcare Inspector	Lucy Finn
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Woodlands Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Block 4 Wentworth Barracks BFPO 15
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 **satisfactory**. The registered person **does meet** the National Standards for under 8s daycare and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Woodlands Day Nursery operates from seven rooms located on the ground floor of a military building shared with Lister School Foundation Stage Unit, which uses the remaining separate rooms on the ground floor and first floor. There are three playrooms catering for children by developmental age and stage, a kitchen, an office and two toilet areas, one with nappy changing facilities. The nursery has shared access to an enclosed outdoor play area and an additional room for indoor physical play.

The nursery serves the needs of military personnel and their families resident in Herford and Bünde. The nursery is registered to provide 44 places for children aged between 12 months and 3 years. There are currently 44 children on roll. The nursery supports several children and staff with English as an additional language. Children attend a variety of sessions within the current opening hours of Monday to Friday, 08.45-13.00 during school time only.

The nursery is managed by the Army Welfare Service. Since the last inspection, there has been a change in manager and deputy. Currently 11 staff work with the children; one has a level 3 qualification, one a level 2 in Early Years and two are currently working towards a level 2 qualification in Early Years.

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## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is **satisfactory**. Children 's health is promoted as staff follow good hygiene procedures such as wearing gloves and using anti-bacterial spray to disinfect the changing mat after use. However these procedures are not always consistently implemented, which could encourage cross-contamination and the spread of infection.

Children are beginning to understand simple good health and hygiene practices through the daily routine; they are encouraged to wash their hands before and after snacks and use individual flannels and paper towels for hand drying, thus minimising the spread of infection.

Children and babies benefit as they are appropriately cared for, having opportunities to rest and sleep according to their individual needs and parental wishes.

Children are well nourished, having opportunities to enjoy a varied menu of nutritious snacks, with staff taking heed of the information provided by parents about any special dietary requirements, preferences or food allergies their child may have. Parents provide packed lunches for their children, which staff store and prepare appropriately. Children have independent access to fresh drinking water.

Children have opportunities to enjoy physical activities and play in the fresh air in the well equipped shared outdoor play area. Additionally, older children have access to a large playroom for indoor physical play; babies and younger children can develop their physical skills in their base room which contains a selection of equipment, such as a slide and wheeled toys.

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

The provision is **satisfactory**. Children are cared for in a secure and safe environment which is suitable for its purpose and made welcoming to children and parents. Children's safety is promoted as staff take positive steps to protect children; daily safety checks and regular risk assessments are completed by staff; access to the premises is closely monitored; a visitor's book is used to record the presence of visitors, although it has not been completed for several months. Registers are maintained to record staff's and children's attendance. Safety gates on each playroom door ensure that children are kept safe and cannot leave the playrooms unsupervised.

Children move around safely and independently in each play room with staff on hand to offer support. Children have access to a wide range of appropriate resources as the playrooms are organised to provide varied areas for play and learning. Children are beginning to be aware of their own safety, as staff explain for example why they should not to run in the corridor and encourage the children to tidy up the toys after use.

Children's safety is promoted as staff have a good understanding of maintaining ratios; the manager and deputy are supernumery and able to support staff as and when required, for example during snacks and nappy changing times. However, during the Easter Party some young children were not being closely supervised whilst eating, which could have compromised their safety.

Children are protected from harm as staff ensure unvetted adults are not left alone with children. Children 's welfare is safeguarded because staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and are aware of what to do if they have concerns about a child in their care; most staff have attended Local Safeguarding Children Tier 1 training.

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

The provision is **satisfactory**. Children are happy and settled, appearing to enjoy coming to the nursery. Children are confident to move around freely and explore the range of activities provided for them, supported by staff who interact effectively with them. Children enjoy positive relationships with their peers and are confident to approach staff for support and cuddles. Babies benefit from caring staff who talk to them, smiling and laughing, whilst praising and encouraging them to take part in the activities.

Children have opportunities to develop their imaginative skills as they are provided with a range of toys and equipment aimed at supporting role play, for example, a child was observed enjoying ironing. Children are given continuous praise and encouragement in their efforts to complete a task, such as a puzzle.

Children benefit from activities that are planned weekly based on the *Birth to Three Matters* framework; observations of children's play are carried out, enabling staff to plan towards children's next developmental steps.

Children are beginning to learn right from wrong, as staff encourage children to share and take turns and respect the feelings of others. Children display good behaviour and show interest in the activities provided.

Children are beginning to learn to be independent, for example staff encourage the children to pour their own drinks, wipe their nose when required and take themselves to the toilet, appropriately supported by staff.

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

The provision is **satisfactory**. Children are beginning to become aware of the wider society as they have independent access to a good range of activities and resources which reflect positive images of the world; for example, on the welcome board there is a poster entitled 'Friends of the World' depicting greetings in different languages and various pictures celebrating diversity; activities are planned to take into consideration the celebration of different cultural festivals.

All children are warmly welcomed and their individual needs taken into account, as staff take heed of the information gained from parents, including those whose English is not the first language and children with special needs.

Children are beginning to develop a sense of belonging as they become familiar with the daily routine and their surroundings, for example children have their own coat pegs and Wellington boots for outdoor play when wet.

Children receive appropriate support as they are cared for by staff who have built good relationships with parents. There are notice boards around the setting displaying useful information, such as the complaints procedure and snack menu. Parents receive a welcome booklet at initial placement informing them of the setting's policies and procedures. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress through daily verbal exchange with staff; additionally, all children take home written daily progress sheets, containing details of their food intake, sleeping and toileting or nappy changing routines of the day. Parents are fully included in the life of the setting; they receive regular newsletters and have the opportunity to attend regular parents committee meetings.

Children are encouraged to behave well and play harmoniously together; they show respect for each other and are beginning to understand responsible behaviour and what is expected of them, supported by staff who use consistent and appropriate methods to manage behaviour.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is **satisfactory**. Suitable recruitment and vetting procedures are in place, thus ensuring children are looked after by staff who are suitable to do so. Personal files containing all relevant documentation are kept for staff. All staff receive induction training and attend regular staff meetings; staff appraisals have been completed, identifying staff's continuing training needs, however qualification requirements are not currently being met; staff have the opportunity to attend various in-service training sessions; this provides them with confidence in their role and responsibilities; all staff are familiar with the *Birth to Three Matters* framework and are able to implement it for planning purposes.

There is a clear registration system in place for both staff and children. Adult to child ratios are maintained to support children's care, learning and play; staff deployment and group sizes are generally effective in contributing to children's good health, safety, enjoyment, achievements and ability to take an active part in the setting. Policies and procedures and a good operational plan are in place to ensure the safe and efficient management of the provision. Documentation is stored confidentially and all children's files are kept up to date.

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

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection, there has been a change in staffing including the manager and deputy; the nursery was given recommendations to improve hygiene practice by providing appropriate hand drying facilities and encourage children to learn about personal hygiene, to ensure procedures for arrival and collection times were followed, to review the system for planning to ensure it was effective in meeting the needs of all children, to develop staff's awareness and understanding of effective and positive ways to manage children's behaviour and to ensure that all children were valued and included and to ensure concerns raised were clearly recorded. All of these have been addressed.

## **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 **satisfactory**. The registered person **does meet** 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, the registered person should take account of the following recommendations:

- promote good health and improve hygiene practice to prevent the spread of infection by ensuring that all staff are aware of and comply with the setting's hygiene procedures
- ensure an up-to-date record of visitors is maintained
- ensure staff are deployed effectively and vigilant about children's safety at all times.