



Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC164
Inspection Date	2 May 2011
Childcare Inspector	Mrs Annie Tomlinson
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Little People Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Block 71 York Kaserne Albersloher Weg, 450 48167 Münster
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?

Little People Day Nursery occupies a large purpose-built building located within York Barracks in Münster. It opened in 2003 and has sole occupancy of its premises. A maximum of 77 children may attend the nursery at any one time with ages ranging from 3 months to under 5 years. The nursery serves the needs of British Service families and civilian employees attached to the military community. Little People Day Nursery currently opens from 07.30 to 16.45, Monday to Thursday, and 07.30 to 14.00 on Friday, term time only.

The nursery comprises a baby unit, including a sleep room, a snack room, nappy changing area and an office. Toddlers under two are accommodated in a second play room with access to the sleep room, a soft play room and a large shared outdoor area. Toddlers over two have their own play room alongside a separate craft and food area and have use of a snack room shared with the under twos. A large room is designated to promote physical activities indoors. Children have access to a shared paved area outside. The nursery has purpose-built child sized toilets and suitable nappy changing facilities.

The nursery employs 15 members of staff; of these, six hold appropriate childcare qualifications; four members of staff hold a Level 3, one currently holds a Level 2 and is working towards a Level 3; one holds a Level 2 and two are working towards a Level 2.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy.

The provision is **outstanding**. Children thrive within a clean and well managed setting as staff adhere to stringent and highly effective procedures and practices which meet children's physical, nutritional and health needs. Children are protected from cross infection as staff ensure aprons and gloves are worn when changing nappies, mats are cleaned and hands are thoroughly washed following changes. Individual face cloths are used for the younger children which are then placed in a dirty laundry box, therefore minimising the risk of cross infection. Children's independence in developing good personal hygiene practice is encouraged at all appropriate times, such as after going to the toilet, before and after snack. The provision of pump action soap dispensers and paper towels further support children's development and independence, as staff praise and encourage individual efforts at every available opportunity.

Children in the baby room flourish as staff meticulously ensure that surfaces in the adjoining kitchen area are cleaned using anti-bacterial spray prior to, and following, the preparation of baby food and bottles. Each child is allocated an individual box, labelled with name and a photograph of the child containing own bottles and powdered milk, which ensures that all staff are visually aware of individual care needs. Bottles are made up freshly in line with children's routines and parental wishes. For example, one child who drinks cow's milk prefers this to be at room temperature; all staff are made aware of this and ensure that bottles are removed from the fridge in order to accommodate this preference. Staff in each room follow highly effective procedures with regards to the sterilisation of equipment; details are logged and displayed, thus reducing incidents of cross infection.

Allergy lists are clearly displayed in all rooms including a photograph and detailed description of individual specific areas of concern to protect children's health. Medication is labelled and stored appropriately in the office and staff diligently ensure that all documentation relating to the administration of medication is correctly and accurately completed. Children are well cared for should they become ill or have a minor accident, as seven members of staff hold current paediatric first aid certificates; first aid boxes are checked daily by management and regularly re-stocked, thus ensuring that appropriate care can be provided at all times.

Children confidently explore their immediate environment consistently developing their physical skills as there are three large outdoor play areas which are accessed on a daily basis, weather permitting. Additionally, a large physical room indoors has been resourced to provide similar activities, should the children be unable to access the outdoor play area. Therefore, children are able to continue to develop gross motor skills from an extensive range of stimulating activities and experiences both indoors and outdoors. Younger children are equally well provided for; a sensory room has been created promoting a calm and relaxed atmosphere within which babies are free to explore and develop their senses.

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

The provision is **good**. Children remain safe and secure as access to the provision is closely monitored. Identification is checked for visitors who are provided with a name tag and requested to sign a visitors' book upon arrival and departure, thus protecting children at all times. Parents and children are welcomed into a warm and nurturing environment with a plethora of displays depicting children's work and various relevant advice and

information. Each age group has a designated base room in which toys are stored in labelled and pictured boxes for independent access. Within the older children's play room, a separate messy and snack area provides children with a clear, visual distinction between activities. Children are regularly reminded to take care whilst playing in the creative area, thus developing a sense of personal safety. All children are provided with a good range of resources and equipment which promote their overall development; for example, furniture, equipment and toys are suitable for their purpose and help create an accessible and stimulating environment; daily safety checks are completed and logged outside each room. However, outdoor checks were not completed on the day of the inspection which could have a direct impact upon children's safety. Additionally, children were made to wait for some considerable time before play commenced resulting in some children becoming restless and the focus of the intended activity briefly lost.

Staff are well deployed to provide children with vital opportunities to forge secure relationships. Children receive an exceptional level of support and supervision; staff are skilled at keeping children safe whilst not compromising their independence. Emergency evacuations are regularly conducted and management endeavours to provide visitors with a tour of emergency exits upon arrival; appropriate fire safety equipment is well maintained with meticulous attention paid to the relevant documentation, thus ensuring the well-being of all persons within the setting.

Children are well protected from harm and their welfare highly prioritised as currently eight members of staff have completed a safeguarding children course and all are aware of the procedures to follow should concerns be identified. In addition, one member of staff is responsible for maintaining and updating a safeguarding file for the rest of the team. Parents are provided with detailed policies and procedures to ensure they are aware of the setting's responsibilities. Each room has an individual register and a central register detailing all children present in the building is held in the office. All are accurately maintained and staff ensure that room registers are taken when the children play outside, promoting children's well-being at all times.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is **good**. Children appear happy and settled as they move around the setting with confidence and purpose, supported by staff who consistently maintain a relaxed and positive attitude creating a solid foundation upon which children's self esteem is fostered.

Children freely access age and stage appropriate toys and play materials which are stored in child-height labelled boxes. Children are regularly encouraged to respond to appropriate challenges; for example, children go to their individual coat pegs and are encouraged to put on their coats before going out to play. Additionally, children are keen to help one another reinforced by staff who readily praise the children for their efforts, promoting a harmonious atmosphere and forging positive relationships between peers and staff alike. This is exemplified through a 'song bag' activity in which all children in the two to three-year-old play room are invited to retrieve an object from the bag and choose an appropriate song which mirrors the object. Using visual prompts, staff encourage all children to participate ensuring that individual contributions are praised, thus raising self esteem and self worth.

Children work well together demonstrating their ability to share and take turns, as staff encourage all children to listen whilst another child speaks. Good manners and being respectful to one another is well role-modelled by staff and this is evident in the way in which children relate to each other and their key persons. New children benefit from

verbal reminders at the end of each activity about what will follow; for example, 'let's finish the song, then we can put our coats on'. This enables children to develop an understanding of the daily routine and reduce anxiety by making them aware of what to expect.

Weekly planning sheets are clearly displayed within the playrooms detailing specific resources laid out for the children, thus creating a holistic and enabling environment which children are able to access independently. Learning journeys are adequately maintained containing trackers, observations and examples of children's work. Children's individual interests are considered; clear and concise observations are conducted and an evaluation is completed with next steps identified. However, planning sheets designed to incorporate short adult-led activities and build upon previous observations are not fully completed, resulting in missed opportunities to support individual needs and extend learning. This, therefore, hinders children's progress as the link between observation, assessment and planning is not yet fully established.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is **outstanding**. Children flourish within a calm and relaxed environment in which they are valued and respected as individuals. Children are demonstrably self assured, operating independently within the setting with confidence as staff continuously reward children with copious amounts of praise. Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour and ensure their methods for managing behaviour are appropriate to each child's age and stage of development. Additionally, role-modelling of such behaviour by staff members provides children with clear guidance and consequently, behaviour is exemplary as children consistently help one another, show respect by listening to others talk and saying 'please' and 'thank you'. Children play exceptionally well together, happily sharing and taking turns with resources. It is clear that children have forged strong and secure relationships with all staff.

Meeting the diverse needs of all children attending is highly promoted. Throughout the setting, communication and language is highly prioritised incorporating child-height interactive displays which feature prominently; one of which includes a 'feelings' wall. Children are encouraged to identify and express their feelings as their comments are recorded and displayed alongside the pictures. This not only encourages children to communicate, but also provides a valuable insight into how children are feeling for staff and parents alike. Similarly, a persona doll has recently been introduced which 'travels' around the garrison and is taken home by the children, thus opening up topics of conversation which are relevant to the children building upon their personal experience and developing their awareness of the local community. Children who have English as a second language are well catered for within the setting. An interactive display has been created in both Nepalese and Fijian which all children are able to access and parents' input is invited and encouraged.

A strong and effective partnership with parents contributes to children's well-being and promotes continuity of care. Individual staff portfolios are provided for parents to peruse at their leisure; information boards providing relevant and practical advice are regularly updated. Parents are kept well informed of their child's progress and care routines through daily record sheets and regular newsletters. Termly meetings provide parents with detailed and concise reports with an opportunity to look through learning journeys and celebrate their child's work. Parents are effusive in their praise of the setting and consider staff to be exceptionally caring, reliable and totally committed to the children.

Organisation

The provision is **outstanding**. Children thrive in this visually stimulating and exceptionally well-organised setting in which individuality and independence is cultivated. Management has high expectations of the staff who represent a committed, conscientious and diligent team. Staff feel valued by the manager and individual professional development is prioritised, contributing towards a happy and relaxed atmosphere in which children flourish. All documentation, including children's files, is meticulously maintained and stored appropriately. An effective admission policy ensures that ratios are continuously upheld ensuring that children receive the best possible care. Management has made effective use of the building and are proactive in making alterations to best suit the needs of the children, for example, allocating and developing previously unused rooms into physical areas for all children across the age range.

Children remain highly protected as all but one of the staff have completed suitability checks and all staff members are made aware of this, thus safeguarding children at all times. Newly appointed staff are efficiently inducted into the setting as the management recognises the importance of integrating them quickly into the team, following this with regular reviews to ensure staff understand their roles and responsibilities. Children's self esteem and confidence is further enhanced through the excellent parent partnership which plays an integral role within the setting.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

One recommendation was raised at the previous inspection to promote children's health. This has been addressed. The setting has ensured that all documentation for the administration of medication contains all appropriate details and regular opportunities are now provided for children to be active outdoors.

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 safety by ensuring daily safety checks include the outdoor play areas
- promote outcomes for children by ensuring observations and assessments are used effectively to analyse and review each child's development and learning needs.