



Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC183
Inspection Date	7 May 2008
Childcare Inspector	Lucy Finn
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Ladybirds Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Block 20 Oxford Kaserne 340 Roxelle Strasse 48161 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 **does meet** the National Standards for under 8s daycare and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Ladybirds Day Nursery is registered to provide full day care for 25 children aged from 3 months to 4 years. The provision is situated on Oxford Barracks in Münster and has sole use of premises previously used as a medical centre and located within a shared building. There are currently 24 children on roll.

The setting consists of a baby unit with an adjoining sleep room, two playrooms for children aged 1 to 2 years, two playrooms for children aged 2 to 3 years, a shared area for art and craft, a sensory area, a kitchen/snack room and children's toilets with nappy changing facilities. There is also an office and staff toilets. A fully enclosed outside area is available for outdoor play.

The provision operates from 08.30 to 12.00 on Mondays and from 08.30 to 14.30, Tuesday to Friday, term time only. Children may attend for a variety of sessions.

The staff team comprises a manager, a deputy, 2 keyworkers and an ancillary. Additional keyworkers are employed as supply staff to ensure minimum ratios are maintained or to cover for absences.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is **satisfactory**. Children are beginning to learn about the importance of personal health and hygiene practices through the daily routine, such as hand washing before eating and after using the toilet. Children are encouraged to follow appropriate procedures as to minimise the spread of infection, supported by staff who explain to the children about the importance of good personal hygiene and why they should wash their hands after using the toilet; however, procedures are not consistently followed, as the under twos did not wash their hands before snack time. A clean and hygienic environment is provided as staff follow appropriate health and hygiene procedures, for example cleaning rotas are in place and disposable gloves and apron are worn when changing nappies.

Children are well nourished, enjoying a varied menu of nutritious snacks, such as fruits, cereals and milk. Parents provide packed lunches which staff store and prepare appropriately. Information relating to children's specific dietary requirements, preferences and parental wishes are recorded and taken into account. Children enjoy meal times with staff on hand for support and sociable conversations. Children are encouraged to take an active role, for example collecting their own plates and cups and feeding themselves, thus promoting their independence. Children have access to fresh drinking water in all playrooms.

Children have the opportunity to develop their physical skills, for example dancing to music in the large hallway and enjoy playing in the fresh air in the enclosed outdoor play area. Staff are vigilant to protect children from the sun's harmful rays; parents are informed to provide sun hats and apply sun cream.

Children have their individual needs met, as they have opportunities to rest and sleep as they need to.

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

The provision is **good**. Children are cared for in a spacious, safe and secure indoor and outdoor environment which is suitable for its purpose and welcoming to children and parents; children's art work is displayed at child's eye level and children enjoy recognising their own named coat pegs, which promotes their sense of belonging.

Children are kept safe as effective procedures are in place; daily safety checks and regular risk assessments are carried out and recorded; access to the premises is closely monitored and records are kept of any visitors.

Children and babies have independent access to a wide range of safe toys, play materials and equipment suitable for their differing ages and stages of development and which are checked daily before use. Children are beginning to learn to keep themselves safe, as staff encourage children to tidy away toys after play and explain to the children why they should walk and not run in the corridor, as to avoid accidental injury.

Children and staff's attendance is accurately recorded and fire drills are completed on a regular basis and documented. Children are well looked after in the event of an accident as two members of staff are currently first aid trained and several first aid boxes are provided throughout the setting, which are checked regularly and replenished as required.

Children are protected from harm by staff who demonstrate a sound understanding of their

responsibility to safeguard children in their care and are aware 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 confident, relaxed and settled within the environment. They show interest in the activities provided and have opportunities to develop confidence and self-esteem. Children benefit and make progress as they receive good support from staff who are attentive to their needs and interact effectively with the children; staff are interested in what children do and say, talking and listening to them and providing challenges, for example by asking questions that make children think. Children are beginning to learn right from wrong as staff set a good example by showing them how to respect and co-operate with others.

Children are provided with a suitable variety of activities and play opportunities which support their development and overall learning; they enjoy new experiences and are encouraged to express their imagination and creativity through activities such as role play, painting with different media, dancing and moving to music and singing action songs. Activities are planned weekly, based on the *Birth to Three Matters* framework and observations of children's play. This enables staff to plan for children's next steps of learning and development and adapt activities as required.

Children have their individual needs met as the planning of activities allows for children to make decisions about their play, taking into consideration parental wishes and home routines; children can take part in energetic play and are also given quiet times when they can rest and relax in a quiet area.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is **good**. Children have independent access to a good range of resources which reflect positive images of diversity, for example, photographs and posters; children enjoy going out for walks around the surrounding areas and activities include the celebration of different cultural festivals, which increases children's awareness of our wider society.

Children are familiar with the routines of the nursery day and the environment, which helps to promote their sense of belonging; all children have easy access to appropriate toys, learning resources and equipment. Children who may have learning difficulties or disabilities are warmly welcomed into the setting; appropriate procedures are in place to offer support, should the need arise; staff have a good understanding of the importance of including all children in the life of the setting including children with special needs.

Children's behaviour is good; children are beginning to play harmoniously together, sharing and taking turns, encouraged by staff who provide a stimulating environment and consistently praise the children for their efforts and achievements. The setting has a behaviour policy in place, shared with parents, that all staff understand and implement.

Children benefit as staff have built good relationships with parents and keep them fully informed of their child's daily activities, both verbally and through diary sheets. Parents are aware of the setting's policies and procedures, including the procedure to follow if they have a complaint. Relevant information for parents, for example, snack menus and current topic work, is displayed on notice boards. Furthermore, children benefit as good settling in procedures are in place, which helps ensure children are quickly settled and secure.

Organisation

The organisation is **satisfactory**. Suitable recruitment and vetting procedures are in place, which ensures children are well protected and cared for. Adult to child ratios are maintained to support

children's care, learning and development; staff deployment and group sizes contribute to children's good health, safety, enjoyment and achievements and ability to take an active part in the setting. Staff in individual playrooms work well together, supporting each other to provide appropriate care for the children.

There is a clear registration system in place for both staff and children. Personal files for staff containing all relevant documentation are kept and well maintained. Although staff qualifications do not currently meet minimum requirements, a training action plan has been devised and implemented; two members of staff are currently working towards a level 3 qualification. All staff receive induction training and attend regular in-service training sessions. This provides them with confidence in their role and responsibilities. Regular staff meetings are held when staff share their views and although staff appraisals have not been completed as yet, the managerial team intends to introduce these shortly.

A good operational plan is in place; policies and procedures are currently being updated and all required documentation is well maintained and was available on the day of inspection; however due to some recent changes at garrison managerial level, some paperwork was difficult to locate.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

N/A

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 **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, the registered person should take account of the following recommendation:

- ensure consistent routines are in place for children's hand washing.