



Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC154
Inspection Date	14 March 2007
Childcare Inspector	Laurie Ferris
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Sticky Fingers Day Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	4a /4b Eckener Strasse Detmold 32756
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?

Sticky Fingers Day Nursery has been registered with British Forces Early Years Service since 2002 to provide full day care for children aged three months to under 5 years.

Sticky Fingers Day Nursery is located on a military housing estate and is currently open Monday to Friday, from 09:15 to 12:00, term time only.

The setting has sole use of two adjoining houses, which comprise fourteen rooms. These include activity rooms, sleep area, quiet/story rooms, art and craft rooms, two kitchens, toilet facilities and an office. There is a secure, paved and grassed outside area available for outdoor play.

The setting serves the needs of British Service families and civilian employees attached to the military community. It is co-ordinated by the Army Welfare Service.

The supervisor is supernumerary and is qualified to level 3. There are 6 keyworkers, 1 of whom is qualified to level 3. The setting employs additional staff to cover for absences and an ancillary worker and a cleaner on a daily basis. There are currently 12 children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision **good**. Children are cared for in a warm and clean environment. They benefit from a staff team who understands the importance of good hygiene practice in order to prevent the spread of infection. For example, disposable gloves and aprons are worn when changing nappies.

Children are beginning to understand and follow simple hygiene practices, as staff and children wash their hands before and after snack, and after visiting the toilets. Additionally, children are well looked after and protected from illnesses, as suitable policies and procedures are in place and are implemented by staff, such as a sick child policy.

Appropriate first aid equipment is in place and checked regularly, and an adequate number of staff are appropriately qualified in first-aid. The setting maintains suitable accidents/incidents and medication records to further promote children's good health.

Children's dietary needs are met; children are provided with a varied and balanced diet which includes fruits and vegetables; drinks are readily made available. Children's allergies and dietary requirements are appropriately considered when selecting and preparing food as children's special dietary requirements are displayed in each classroom and kitchen. Snack time is relaxed, staff encourage children to make choices, making snack time a learning experience and an enjoyable part of the day, recreating the atmosphere of a small family group.

Children's emotional well-being is promoted, as they are allowed to pursue their own interests and are provided with opportunities to develop their physical skills through activities planned for them within the designated playrooms. For example, young children improve their hand-eye co-ordination as they build towers with small blocks. They giggle and squeal with delight as they knock the towers over and repeat the building process, thereby reinforcing their skills.

However, the setting is not currently using the outside play area, which means children are not able to enjoy playing outside in the fresh air.

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

The provision is **good**. Children are cared for in a secure and welcoming environment with displays of children's artwork adorning the setting's walls. Children are able to move freely and independently access a wide range of play equipment, promoting their learning and overall development.

Children are offered suitable and well-maintained equipment and resources that are appropriate for their purpose and help create a stimulating environment.

Children's safety is highly regarded, as staff ensure daily safety checks and regular risk assessments are conducted; fire drills are practised at regular intervals.

Children's welfare is safeguarded, as staff have received training in child protection and understand their responsibilities in this matter. Adequate procedures are in place in case child abuse is suspected or an allegation is made against a member of staff. There is a child protection policy with contact details of the local social work service (BFSWS).

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is **good**. Children enjoy their time at nursery because staff are friendly, attentive and make the play fun. Children are provided with a vast range of interesting and challenging activities based on the *Birth to Three Matters* framework. The setting uses the framework as guidelines for planning activities and ensures children have opportunities to develop in all areas.

Children are beginning to learn about the consequences of their actions through repeating patterns of play. For example, they build towers of blocks and notice the connection between pushing the tower and it falling. Children learn how to solve problems, as they are encouraged to complete simple puzzles. Children learn rhymes and songs and delight in performing the actions; they were observed shaking their entire body pretending to be 'jelly on a plate', as they sang the nursery rhyme, laughing infectiously and chuckling until the rhyme was finished.

Children explore their surroundings, show great interest in what others are doing and are learning how to make choices, for example between accessing the role play area or completing a puzzle, supported by staff when needed. Children thrive because staff interact positively with them and give them time and adequate support to encourage their participation. Children thoroughly enjoy themselves, as they spend time purposefully exploring the wide range of activities accessible to them.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is **good**. All children attending the setting are respected and valued as individuals. Children are developing an understanding of the wider society, as staff promote equal opportunity through effective use of resources, language and carefully planned activities. All children are warmly welcomed by staff who ensure children's individual needs are met; information gained from parents at initial placement is carefully recorded and taken heed of; additionally, daily discussions and written feedback on children's progress ensure continuity of care according to parents' wishes. Although the setting has currently no children with special needs, sound procedures are in place in case one is admitted.

Children generally behave well and staff deal with challenging behaviour consistently and promptly when it occurs, to support children's understanding and well-being. As a result, children are well-mannered, and are learning how to share and take turns.

Good partnership with parents contributes to children's well-being. Parents receive a warm welcome and on a day to day basis are kept well informed about their child's progress. Additionally, an exhaustive developmental file is maintained on each child and is shared with parent at request.

Organisation

The organisation is **satisfactory**. Children benefit from a well organised environment that takes into consideration children's care and developmental needs. Children's health, safety, enjoyment and ability to make a positive contribution are effectively promoted because staff are well deployed and children are grouped appropriately so that they feel secure and confident and make good progress.

Children are generally protected, as effective recruitment and vetting procedures for staff are in place; for example, unvetted adults are never left alone with children. However, there is currently no arrangement in place for a named deputy to take charge in the absence of the manager.

Most documentation sampled is appropriate and well maintained. Records relating to individual children or staff are confidentially stored. However, the current system for registering children and staff attendance on a daily basis needs improving as it does not indicate the hours of attendance.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of all the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Following the last inspection, Sticky Fingers Day Nursery now uses children's observations to plan the next steps in children's play, learning and development. Observations and the planning of activities are linked to the *Birth to Three Matters* framework. The person in charged of the baby room holds a level 3 qualification and 50% of staff looking after babies have received training in this area. Documentation is accurate and complies with the National Standards.

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 further the registered person should take account of the following recommendations:

- Improve the system for registering children and staff attendance on a daily basis to show the hours of attendance and ensure there is a named deputy who is able to take charge in the absence of the manager.
- Promote children's health by providing them with opportunities to be active outdoors.