



Inspection Report For Early Years Provision

Unique Reference Number	BFG02DC175
Inspection Date	4 July 2011
Childcare Inspector	Laurence Ferris
Registered Provision -Setting Name <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Rascals Nursery
Registered Provision -Setting Address <i>Suppressed if childminder</i>	Block 12 Alanbrooke Barracks 33102 Paderborn
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?

Rascals Nursery is located within Alanbrooke Barracks and occupies facilities situated on the ground floor within an accommodation block. The setting serves the needs of British Service families and civilian employees attached to the military community. The premises consist of four playrooms, an office, a kitchen, purpose built toilet facilities, a laundry room and an enclosed outside play area.

The setting is registered to provide care for 40 children aged from 3 months to under 6 years and operates from 7.30 to 17.00, Monday to Friday, all year round. There are currently 28 children on roll, of these, 13 were present during inspection.

The supervisor is supernumerary and working towards a Level 4 qualification. The setting employs 10 practitioners, six of whom are qualified, including the named deputy who is qualified to Level 6. One practitioner is currently working towards a Level 2 qualification. The setting also employs regular supply staff to cover for staff absences and an ancillary and cleaner on a daily basis.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is **outstanding**. Children are beginning to gain a secure understanding of good health and hygiene practices as they are given excellent support and guidance by staff who remain extremely attentive to their needs. Exemplary nappy changing procedures are in place; the area is bright and colourful, children bring their favourite toys and staff make the experience enjoyable. Children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and after visiting the toilets. Those who become ill are well tended to; most staff hold a current paediatric first aid certificate, there are fully stocked first aid boxes available in each classroom and detailed records are maintained of medicines administered and of all incidents or accidents that occur. The premises are maintained to an exceptional state of cleanliness and excellent precautions are taken to avoid the spread of infection, such as the provision of pump soap and disposable paper towels. Additionally, toys and equipment are regularly disinfected and this is logged and strictly monitored.

Children are offered a varied and nutritious diet of mainly fruit and vegetables, which is attractively presented. Staff sit with children and discuss taste, healthy eating and encourage children to taste unfamiliar vegetables. A member of staff eats a piece of carrot making a 'yumm...' sound. Children enthusiastically taste the carrots and mimic the practitioner. They learn the importance of sustaining a healthy eating habit through family initiatives organised by the setting; parents and children planted vegetables such as sweet peas, tomatoes and lettuces in the outdoor area. Lunch provided by parents is effectively stored in the fridge. Children's dietary requirements, preferences and food allergies are taken heed of and details including photographs listed in the kitchen to alert the ancillary who holds a level 2 Food Hygiene certificate.

Generous amount of time is allocated to outside play and outings to local places of interest. This allows children to enjoy the fresh air and engage in vigorous activities, thus promoting their physical development. Children were observed excitedly jumping into the ball pit in the soft play room, laughing and giggling. Facilities are also available for children who may wish to rest or enjoy more relaxed activities both indoors and outdoors.

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

The provision is **good**. Children are cared for in a welcoming and well maintained environment. Children are adequately supervised in all areas of the provision and have access to a range of good quality and age appropriate toys, furniture and resources. Staff undertake regular risk assessments, complete daily safety checks before children arrive and staff stay vigilant throughout the session. These ensure all safety strategies are in place and potential risks effectively minimised to protect children. Children learn to keep themselves safe as they adhere to the nursery rules and follow the direction of the adults. For example, children are closely supervised when using the stairs leading to the outdoor play area. Secure systems are implemented to ensure children are not left alone with anyone who has not been vetted and written details are obtained from parents regarding who is allowed to collect their child from nursery.

Some steps are taken to protect children from fire hazards; regular fire drills are conducted and fire detection and control equipment are suitably maintained. However, children could be fully protected by the setting reviewing the emergency evacuation procedure. Currently, details of any problems encountered and the outcomes are not recorded in the

fire log, and specific mention is not made of when staff and children can safely re-enter the premises. As a result, during a fire practice a practitioner took a child to the outdoor play area before the all clear was pronounced for safe return.

All staff have completed safeguarding children training and are able to recognise the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and have a good understanding of their responsibilities towards safeguarding children. There is a comprehensive policy in place which is shared with parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is **outstanding**. Children make outstanding progress in their learning and development, as staff have a clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and its requirements, and take pride in maintaining learning journeys for each child, detailing observations and photographs of their achievements. The information gathered is consistently used to track children's progress. All areas of learning are catered for. Children are focused; they learn about turn taking, use their imagination, respond to those around them and flourish as they enjoy and participate in activities that are purposefully tailored to their individual needs. Furthermore, staff interact positively with children, using open-ended questions to enhance their thinking skills and work tirelessly with parents to ensure play opportunities reflect children's interests.

Children are developing high levels of confidence and self-esteem; they are given meaningful praise and acknowledgement and offered opportunities to make decisions about what to play with because child-initiated activities are an integral part of the planning alongside adult led-activities. Play rooms are purposefully set to mirror the six areas of learning and the older children free flow between their base room and the soft play area.

Children display high interests in the activities provided. As part of the current topic, the setting invited the fire brigade to talk about their work and raise staff and children's awareness of fire safety. Children were observed enthusiastically squirting water out of the fire hose and pretending to be firemen, setting off the siren and wearing the safety helmet. Following the visit, staff skilfully escorted children to the outdoor area to enjoy further water play. They were observed methodically watering the vegetable patches and eagerly filling and emptying water containers.

Children acquire continuously new knowledge and skills in this nurturing environment, skilfully supported by staff who have children's interests at heart. Evidently, children respond positively to challenges and proudly show their achievements to staff and their parents.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is **outstanding**. Children are treated with equal concern and play a full part in the setting because they are valued and their individuality respected. Children have equal access to toys and resources including a wealth of small world items, dolls and books portraying positive images of diversity. Children celebrate relevant cultural and religious festivals and taste food from different cultures, such as 'couscous' at the local restaurant JB's. Such activities help children to widen their knowledge of the local community and the wider world.

Children with learning difficulties or disabilities are well supported. The setting maintains an exceptional partnership with professionals from other agencies and parents to provide support that is tailored to the child's individual needs. Evidence shows the setting uses the knowledge and guidance of professionals from other agencies to provide all children

with the best learning opportunities and environment.

Children behave well. They are happy and join in, have fun and respect those around them because staff react quickly and efficiently to dissipate unwanted behaviour. Children are constantly rewarded for act of kindness and thoughtfulness.

Children are cared for by staff who understand that parents and families are central to a child's well-being and support this important relationship by sharing and offering support for extending learning at home. Parents are represented by a committee that holds particular roles, which adds further to the smooth running of the setting. Extensive information is shared about children's welfare and emotional needs, likes and dislikes. Parents interviewed spoke highly of the new management and depicting the leadership as professional and innovative. They commented on a huge improvement in parents' partnership. For example, they expressed great satisfaction on how meaningful verbal and written feedback on their child's day has become, and how they can now easily access their child's learning journey at request.

Organisation

The organisation is **good**. Children, including those with specific and special needs, benefit from a fully inclusive, safe, happy and welcoming environment. Staff are professional, caring and self-motivated people who understand the needs of each and every child. The setting is successfully raising its standards and quality of care through a structured system of self evaluation. This evaluative procedure has helped the setting recognise the areas in which they would like to further enhance as part of their continuous improvement. Staff are suitably deployed and ratios are strictly maintained to ensure children thrive in a safe environment.

Additionally, the setting is committed to provide on-going training to continue to meet qualification requirements and continuously improve outcomes for children. Induction training is provided to newly appointed staff to make certain all staff understand fully their roles and responsibilities.

Documentation pertaining to the smooth running of the setting is generally in place and personal information held about children and staff confidentially stored. For example, the attendance register accurately indicates children's times of arrival and departure.

Overall, the setting meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

One recommendation was raised at the previous inspection visit. This has been addressed. Regular observations are now made of children's learning to identify the next steps in their development in order to inform the planning.

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:

- review the emergency evacuation procedures to ensure details of fire practices are effectively recorded and assessed to meet fully safety requirements.