



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY277508

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/10/2004
Inspector Name Salma Raquib

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Mini Stars Day Nursery
Setting Address St. Margarets Church
Barcombe Avenue
Streatham Hill
SW2 3BH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Mini Stars Ltd. - Marie Long & Vanessa Callum

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Mini Stars Ltd. - Marie Long & Vanessa Callum
Address Barcombe Avenue
Streatham Hill
London
SW2 3BH

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

Mini Stars Day Nursery opened in April 2004. The nursery provides full day care for families from the local community. It operates from a main play room which is divided into areas for children under 3 and children aged 3 to 5 years, baby room, kitchen, office, staff room and toilets. The premises are in a converted part of a church hall. There is an enclosed outdoor play area. It is located in a residential area close to local shops and bus and rail links. The nursery is situated in Streatham Hill and serves the local community.

The provision is registered for 26 children aged 6 months to 5 years. The provider has requested a variation, as a result of this inspection and this has been agreed. The nursery does not provide for funded three and four year olds at present. The setting receives support from Lambeth Early Years Development Childcare Partnership.

The nursery operates from 08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday throughout the year, except for a weeks closure at Christmas. The staff are suitably qualified and experienced.

How good is the Day Care?

Mini stars nursery provides good care for children. The play areas are well arranged to enable children to access resources easily and to make choices. The operational plan is child centred and routines meet children's play and learning needs and provides opportunities for self selection in small group and whole group activities.

The setting for drinks and snacks is relaxed, informal and sociable and children are able to practice self-help skills and develop some independence. There is a good range of play equipment that children use confidently. A good balance of activities is provided within the setting which are well supported and supervised by staff. Staff are available to help promote language and sharing. Staff play with the children and help to create a happy and settled atmosphere. However, there are limited resources reflecting disability.

Staff are aware of safety, however, the children's toilet area and the outdoor play area are poorly maintained.

Children behave well in the group setting and are co-operative with staff. Role-play

resources are well set out and children have good opportunities to explore and discuss a range of experiences, feelings, cultures and life-styles. Children have many opportunities to use and enjoy books and the reading area is attractively presented.

Parents and carers are welcome in the pre-school setting and make positive contributions to the group. The settling-in procedure works very well and a good partnership approach is fostered, enabling children to integrate successfully. The group positively promotes inclusion of children with special needs and works well to promote understanding and sensitivity. Parents are informed verbally of children's welfare and progress and written details about policies, procedures and children's assessments are shared on an informal basis. Records kept are generally good although there are some minor weaknesses concerning written risk assessments.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the first inspection.

What is being done well?

- The environment is organised and provides a balance of activities attractively set out promoting children's interest and encouraging exploration. Staff support and encourage children to make full use of the provision, they offer a varied and child focussed routine and assist children well in developing self-help skills and independence.
- Staff create an environment that helps children to behave in socially acceptable ways and they provide children with guidance for moving around and using resources appropriately.
- Staff form good partnerships with parents and carers, enabling children to settle and integrate confidently. Parents and carers contributions to the group are valued and appreciated, promoting inclusion and meeting children's welfare needs.

What needs to be improved?

- Provide a means of recording risk assessments,
- Safety in the outdoor play area and children's toilets,
- Provide resources reflecting disability.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

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Outcome of the inspection

Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
6	Ensure the outdoor area and children's toilet area is safe and written risk assessments are kept	21/11/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure there is a named deputy.
5	Provide resources promoting disability

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.