

# Mawsley Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number** EY362003  
**Inspection date** 14/10/2008  
**Inspector** Sarah Measures

**Setting address** Mawsley Day Nursery, 14 Barnwell Court, Mawsley, Nr  
Kettering, NN14 1FG  
**Telephone number** 01536 791609  
**Email** katrina@mawsleydaynursery.co.uk  
**Type of setting** Childcare on non-domestic premises

## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

## **Description of the setting**

Mawsley Day Nursery opened in 2008. The nursery operates from purpose built premises in the village of Mawsley, Kettering. Care is provided in three base rooms and all children share access to an outdoor play area. The nursery is on one floor and there is access for adults and children with disabilities and there are disabled toilet facilities. The nursery is registered on the Early Years Register to care for a maximum of 61 children at any one time. The nursery is also registered on the Childcare and Voluntary Childcare registers and provides out of school care. Children from the village and surrounding areas attend for various sessions. There are currently 91 children on roll including 28 children who attend the out of school club. Sixteen staff in total are employed by the nursery including the cook and the cleaner, eleven staff who work directly with the children either hold or are working towards appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:30 until 18:30 all year round. The nursery receives support from the Local Authority.

## **Overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

The nursery provides effectively for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The manager has a clear commitment to improvement and to providing children with high quality care and education. Improvement and enjoyment for children is effectively secured because the manager actively seeks the views of parents, staff and children. Secure systems are in place to support children with English as an additional language and children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities. All children feel welcome and learn to value those that are different from themselves because a positive environment that effectively represents a diverse society is provided.

## **What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?**

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- further develop observation and assessment systems to show the next steps in children's learning that are then linked to planning in order to ensure children make good individual progress
- make sure that staff vetting systems are fully robust
- make sure that staffing arrangements always meet the needs of the children.

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

The manager spends a good amount of time with the children in order to tightly monitor staff practice and organisational policies and procedures. She acts as a good role model to staff, who are enthusiastic and well motivated by her positive and enthusiastic attitude and by the constructive appraisal and staff training programme. This helps to ensure a warm and positive environment provided for

the children. Secure systems of self-reflection help to ensure a good quality provision for children in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage. Good monitoring systems are in place to ensure a full range of learning opportunities are offered to children in all areas of the nursery.

Positive, friendly communications take place daily between staff and parents and there is a good system in place for parents to share their child's successes and events from home within the setting. This helps staff to plan for children's individual development and ensures children feel a sense of belonging within the nursery. Parent questionnaires express their support for staff and the care that their children receive. Various ongoing opportunities are available for parents to share their views and to look at children's developmental records. This helps staff keep abreast of children's needs and ensures parents are able to support their children effectively at home. Thoughtful systems are being developed to work with other providers that work towards the early learning goals, in order to effectively promote continuity of children's care.

The comprehensive systems of risk assessment that are reviewed, if there is any change, ensure children's environment is safe for them to access. Children are well safeguarded because staff are confident with the understanding of child protection issues and referral procedures. Overall, well-considered documentation and organisational procedure underpin the safe running of the provision for children. Children are particularly well protected because staff encourage them to express themselves confidently if something is happening that they do not like.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

The nursery effectively promotes children's welfare, learning and development. Staff make up a well-qualified team supporting the children. Staff work very hard to ensure a good variety of fun activities are planned for children across all areas of the nursery that comprehensively cover all development areas. A very stimulating and comfortable learning environment is planned for babies and very young children. Good quality observations are carried out on the children and collected by key workers in order to show where children are at. However, the next steps in children's learning are not clearly identified and then linked to the overall planning in order to fully ensure children's progress as individuals.

Children are well behaved because they are well occupied and because staff make good use of positive language when encouraging them into patterns of good behaviour. Children feel secure and valued because staff listen to them carefully and value what they have to say. Staff make good use of careful discussion and conversation in order to help children to be responsible and to think for themselves and in order for them to make the most of the learning opportunities available.

Children's health is well promoted because they all have regular opportunities to use the outdoor play area. The older children particularly benefit from this as they mainly have open-access to a good range of outdoor activities. For example, children grow vegetables in the vegetable plot and look for insects in the nature area allocated outdoors. Children enjoy varied and nutritious meals and fruit for

snacks and are encouraged into good personal hygiene routines by staff. Staff show a good knowledge of children's dietary needs and secure checking systems are in place to ensure these are met.

The nursery, including the outdoor area is secure. The arrival of any visitors is carefully monitored and clear procedures are in place to ensure children are only collected by authorised persons. All areas of the nursery are well organised so that children are able to choose freely from activities and to select equipment to work independently. A very stimulating and welcoming environment is planned for children. However staff deployment is not fully effective in supporting the needs of all of the children during very busy times in the pre-school room. Although new staff are carefully selected to ensure they share the secure values promoted within the nursery, vetting procedures do not always ensure all checks necessary are followed up in order to always ensure staff are suitable to work with children.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### Overall effectiveness

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b> | 2 |
| How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?   | 2 |
| The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.   | 2 |

### Leadership and management

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>          | 2 |
| How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement? | 2 |
| How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?                            | 2 |
| How well are children safeguarded?  | 2 |

### Quality and standards

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>  | 2 |
| <b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>       | 2 |
| How well are children helped to stay safe?  | 2 |
| How well are children helped to be healthy?   | 2 |
| How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?  | 2 |
| How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?   | 2 |
| How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being? | 2 |

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

## **Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted**

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

### **Detail of the complaint/s**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration that required the provider to take any action to meet the Requirements. The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see upon request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

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