



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY287735

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/12/2004
Inspector Name Lesley Theresa Watts

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Merry Go Round Pre School
Setting Address Merry Go Round Pre School, 1 Jubilee Road
Sandwich
Kent
CT13 0QP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Merry Go Round Pre School 285129

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Merry Go Round Pre School
Address 3 Mill Close
Sandwich
Kent
CT13 9JD

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

Merry Go Round Pre-School opened in 2004, it is overseen by a committee and is non profit making. It operates from one room in a single storey detached property in Sandwich, Kent. The group serves the local area.

There are currently 19 children from 2 to under 5 years on roll. This includes 12 funded 3 and 4-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting has experience of supporting a number of children with special needs.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 until 12:45.

There are four members of staff and one volunteer employed to work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level III.

The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Merry Go Round Pre-school provides good quality care for children.

The clean, safe and stimulating environment supports the safety, welfare and development of all children. Staff work well together, they have a good understanding of the policies and procedures, including child protection procedures to help keep children safe from harm. Most mandatory documentation is well maintained. Staff give high priority to the safety of the children. The premises are safe and there are clear procedures for the safe arrival and collection of children throughout the session. A clear and consistent daily routine, which includes children practicing effective hand washing procedures, help children learn about personal hygiene and keeping healthy. There are no systems in place to monitor the temperature of the premises, whereby the room is sometimes cold. The Special Needs Coordinator is confident in her role and staff are committed to providing an inclusive service that is free from discrimination.

The care arrangements for children are good. Children arrive happily, settle quickly and are keen to join in with the fun range of activities provided. The staff have a sound knowledge of child development and the environment is carefully prepared to help children achieve well. A wide range of activities and experiences arouse

children's curiosity, promote their learning and help to develop their concentration. They become animated as they engage with staff and their peers, sharing activities and tasks. Praise and encouragement builds the children's self esteem and confidence. Staff are developing their system of planning and assessment, using observations to inform the planning. As a result, staff are able to identify what children need to learn next and ensure they are all suitably challenged.

Parents and children are greeted warmly. Parents are generally happy with their child's care at the setting. However parents are not well informed of the groups policies and procedures.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The clean, safe and stimulating environment supports the safety, welfare and development of all children.
- The premises are safe and there are clear procedures for the safe arrival and collection of children throughout the session. A clear and consistent daily routine, which includes children practicing effective hand washing procedures, help children learn about personal hygiene and keeping healthy.
- Children arrive happily, settle quickly and are keen to join in with the fun range of activities provided. The staff have a sound knowledge of child development and the environment is carefully prepared to help children achieve well.
- A wide range of activities and experiences arouse children's curiosity, promote their learning and help to develop their concentration. They become animated as they engage with staff and their peers, sharing activities and tasks. Praise and encouragement builds the children's self esteem and confidence.

What needs to be improved?

- information given to parents
- temperature of the premises

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.)

Since their registration in June 2004 Ofsted has not received any complaints about the provider.

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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
4	Ensure that the premises are maintained at an adequate and comfortable temperature.
12	Devise a system to monitor and evaluate how information is shared with parents, to ensure they are kept well informed of all issues relating to the groups policies, procedures, their children's developmental progress and matters that affect the smooth running of the group

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.