



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY252113

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/11/2004
Inspector Name Carys Millican

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Abbey Children's Day Nursery
Setting Address 8 Abbey Street
Carlisle
Cumbria
CA3 8TX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Joy Patricia Woodruff

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

Abbey Children's Day Nursery is privately owned. It opened in 2003 and operates from a Georgian style terraced house in Carlisle city centre. The premises includes three playrooms for the different age groups of children, a sleep room and two activity/dining rooms. A maximum of 38 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07.30 to 18.00 for 51 weeks of the year. The children have access to three outdoor play areas.

There are currently 43 children aged from 0 - 4 years on roll. Of these 11 children receive funding for nursery education. Children attend from all areas of Carlisle and surrounding districts. The nursery currently supports one child who speaks English as an additional language. There are no children attending who have special educational needs.

The nursery employs seven full time and three part time staff. Nine staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The nursery is a member of the National Day Nurseries Association.

How good is the Day Care?

Abbey Children's Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. Staff are experienced and qualified and have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. There is good organisation of the setting, which enables the staff to work closely with the children and to offer care and support. The playrooms are warm, welcoming and bright. Each playroom is organised to provide an extensive range of interesting play areas. The children are able to move easily between activities and choose from the plentiful and accessible good quality equipment. Documentation is generally well organised and children's needs are clearly recorded. Confidentiality is maintained.

Attention to health and safety is generally good. There is a clear health and safety policy and the premises are clean and well maintained. Sensitive and appropriate interactions between staff and children promote children's self esteem. Snacks and meals provided are healthy and nutritious. The staff have a good understanding with regard to their responsibilities in child protection matters and meeting children's special needs.

Children's care learning and play are fully supported. The children are well occupied

with imaginative play opportunities, which are varied to ensure children remain interested and stimulated. Planning is in place with opportunities for free play and adult initiated activities related to age and individual abilities. Children's progress is regularly monitored to inform future planning for individual needs. Good behaviour is promoted through praise and encouragement and staff act as good role models in promoting good social skills and manners.

The relationship with parents is good, with positive comments and feedback received from parents. Staff communicate closely with parents to foster good relationships and to build up a greater understanding of children's need's. Effective systems are in place for keeping parents informed about the setting and children's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The premises are clean and well maintained. The children's work is creatively displayed to create a warm and welcoming environment. The playrooms are well set out to provide interesting and stimulating play areas. Children are happy and well cared for.
- There is a good range of clean, age appropriate play equipment to support planned activities. The resources are stored appropriately in low level containers and are easily accessible. The children move freely around the activities and are able to choose for themselves. The activities are stimulating, interesting, fun and present challenge. The adults are friendly and supportive, joining in the activities, which are enjoyed by the children.
- Relationships between staff and children are good. Staff take time to listen and value children's contributions. Children behave in a co-operative, calm way and staff provide good role models being polite to one another and the children. Good behaviour is encouraged through positive strategies, helping children to learn good ways of relating to one another and promote self esteem.
- The partnership with parents is good. Parents feel informed about their child within the setting and communicate informally with staff before and after sessions and using a daily diary. Information is provided to parents by newsletter and on the notice board. Parents are confident in the ability of the staff to care for their child in accordance with their wishes and the child's individual need's.

What needs to be improved?

- the practicing of the fire evacuation procedures
- the obtaining of parental consents.

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.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
14	Ensure parental permission is obtained for taking children's photographs.
6	Ensure fire evacuation procedures are regularly practiced with the children following the fire safety officer's recommendations.

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.