



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109468

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/02/2005
Inspector Name Lisa Toole

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Ninfield and District Pre-School Group
Setting Address Memorial Hall Cottage
Bexhill Road, Ninfield
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 9EE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Ninfield & District Pre-School Group

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Ninfield & District Pre-School Group
Address Ninfield Memorial Hall
Ninfield
East Sussex
TN33 9EE

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

Ninfield and District Pre-school Group has been registered since 1972 and provides full day care. It is run by a voluntary committee and operates from a village hall, a small side room and a cottage annexe with three rooms spread over two floors in Ninfield, East Sussex. The group serves the local community. A maximum of 28 children may attend the group in the hall and a maximum of fifteen children in the cottage annexe at any one time. It is open from 08.30 to 15.00 hours Monday to Friday, term time only.

There are currently 32 children aged from two years to under five years on roll. Of these 17 children receive funding for nursery education. The pre-school currently supports a number of children with special educational needs.

The pre-school employs seven staff. Three of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff are currently working towards a qualification.

The pre-school is a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and the Battle and Bexhill Under Fives Association.

How good is the Day Care?

Ninfield and District Pre-school Group provides satisfactory quality care for children. A warm and welcoming environment is provided. Staff make good use of the space and children are able to move and play freely. The premises are clean and tidy except in the kitchen where the fridge and microwave are dirty. There is also a water tank accessible to children in the garden. The person in charge has an appropriate qualification and staff are aware of the need to protect children from unvetted persons. However, there are no formal recruitment and induction procedures in place and the procedures for deputising are informal. Most documentation is in place and is stored securely although some records are not accurately maintained and some lack sufficient detail. There is no lost child policy in place.

The premises are kept secure, there are effective systems for the safe collection of children and staff are aware of their responsibilities regarding fire evacuation. They promote good health and hygiene practices and children receive nutritious snacks and meals. Staff find out about children's individual needs, including any dietary ones, by talking to parents and the children themselves. The special educational needs co-ordinator has a good understanding of her role and responsibilities and

staff promote inclusive practice. Staff have a good awareness of child protection and the procedures to be followed.

Children are offered a variety of activities to support their development and learning in all areas and staff interact well with them. Children are happy, confident and participate with enthusiasm. Staff promote positive behaviour using praise and encouragement and children are generally well behaved.

There is an effective partnership with parents and they receive regular feedback about the group and their child's progress. The children are cared for according to their parents wishes.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment. They have good relationships with the children, interact positively with them and support their learning effectively. Children are happy, participate with enthusiasm and enjoy their play.
- There is a good variety of toys and resources to stimulate and challenge the children and meet their individual needs. The equipment is used to support children's learning in all areas of development. The toys are clean, easily accessible, promote equalities and are enjoyed by the children.
- Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of child protection. They are aware of possible signs and symptoms of child abuse and the procedures to be followed if abuse is suspected.
- There is an effective partnership with parents. They receive regular feedback about their child through verbal feedback, consultation meetings and they receive regular newsletters. The children are cared for according to their parents wishes.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for the recruitment and induction of new staff to ensure an appropriate person is appointed to a post and that they are aware of their role and responsibilities
- the procedures for deputising to ensure the group runs smoothly and children are appropriately cared for
- the policy for a lost child so that all staff are aware of what procedures should be followed
- the hazards in the garden relating to the water tank to ensure that children are safe at all times

- the cleaning arrangements for the kitchen to reduce risks of cross infection to children
- the documentation relating to the register, visitors record, medication and accident records, risk assessment and complaints procedures so that they are accurately maintained and contain sufficient detail.

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

Satisfactory

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
1	Formalise the procedures for the recruitment and induction of new staff and for deputising.
4	Ensure that children are protected from all hazards in the garden.
7	Review the cleaning arrangements for the kitchen.
14	Ensure that all required documentation is in place and accurately maintained.

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.