



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 146800

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/01/2004
Inspector Name Gyatri Rupal

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Weston Voluntary Nursery School
Setting Address Maiden Street
Weston
NEAR HITCHIN
Hertfordshire
SG4 7AG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Weston Voluntary Nursery School 311013

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Weston Voluntary Nursery School
Address Maiden Street
Weston
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG4 7AG

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

Weston Voluntary Nursery opened in September 1975. It operates from Weston Nursery unit situated at the rear of the Weston Primary School building, in Weston village. The nursery unit is a purpose built building. There is a fully enclosed large play area used for outside activities.

The nursery provides three sessions in a week, it is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons; 13:05 to 15:05 during school term times. The nursery has sole use of the premises when sessions are being run. The same premises are occupied by the school nursery on five mornings per week. The Weston Voluntary nursery serves the local community.

The nursery is registered for 20 children from 2 to 5 years. There are 12 children on roll and 4 children are on the waiting list. Two full time staff members work with the children. The nursery receives support from the Early Years Development Team.

How good is the Day Care?

Weston Voluntary Nursery provides satisfactory care for children.

The nursery provides children with a welcoming and relaxed environment where the children feel settled and secure. The space and resources are well organised and offer a variety of play opportunities for children. The staff encourage the children to develop their independent skills and have a clear understanding of the children's development and their needs.

The staff give high priority and take positive steps to promote safety within the nursery. Procedures are in place to meet Health and Safety requirements. Good hygiene practices are in place along with ensuring toys, equipment and furniture are kept clean and in good repair. The staff have a sound knowledge and understanding of Child Protection procedures.

A wide selection of play materials, learning resources and equipment are in place to develop all aspects of care, learning and play. These resources are presented in a way that encourages children to play. The planning incorporates the Early Learning Goals and details activities to promote these. Children have freedom of choice and access to the resources. The nursery has suitable strategies for Behaviour Management which are appropriate to the children's level of understanding, these

are shared with the parents.

The staff have developed a good rapport with the parents; they share information about the child's achievements and progress at the end of the session. The majority of documentation is in place, however the nursery need to update a few policies and ensure suitable contingency arrangements are in place to cover emergencies and unexpected staff absences. The parents appreciate the services the nursery provides.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the Weston Voluntary Nursery agreed to set up procedures for the safe conduct of any outing provided. Records to be kept of any vehicle to be used showing drivers details, licence, insurance and M.O.T as appropriate. Procedures which insure that any animal on the premises is safe to be in the proximity of children and does not pose a health risk.

All actions have been met. Procedures for outings has been written. Records of the vehicle are kept. Information about pets kept in the nursery is included in the parents letter. Health and safety procedures are updated to ensure children's safety when handling pets in the nursery.

What is being done well?

- The staff's relationship with the children is excellent. They interact with the children very well. They take time to listen to them, ask open-ended questions and give them choices that help them to develop their language, thinking and independence.
- The nursery provides a good range of toys and resources that meet each child's individual needs and promotes their self-esteem. The children are happy and confident in their care, they are learning to respect and value each other, and they behave well. The staff and committee are a close well-matched team who support each other.
- The nursery provides an exciting and stimulating range of planned learning, play opportunities and activities for all the children. These are theme-based, for example transport. The whole setting is transformed for the theme, and everyone participates. Children's learning and development is very well supported through these activities.

What needs to be improved?

- suitable staff arrangements to cover emergencies and unexpected staff absences
- registration system showing hours of attendance
- knowledge of up to date first aid procedures
- names and address of the volunteers and committee members.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
2	Ensure that accessible individual records are kept on the premises containing the name and address of any volunteers and committee members.	28/02/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure that suitable arrangements are in place to cover emergencies and unexpected staff absences, and sufficient suitable staff and volunteers to cover staff sickness and time spent with parents.
2	Ensure there is a system for registering children and staff attendance on a sessional basis, showing hours of attendance.
2	Ensure that there are sufficient staff working directly with children.
7	Ensure there is at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate on the premises or on outings at any one time.

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.