



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 137374

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 28/06/2004
Inspector Name Anne Robertson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Valley Pre-School
Setting Address Beckenham Lane
Bromley
Kent
BR2 0DA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Valley Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Valley Pre-School
Address Beckenham Lane
Bromley
Kent
BR2 0DA

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

Valley Pre-School opened in 1991. It operates from a self contained building within the grounds of Valley Primary School. The premises consists of two playrooms, with adjacent toilet facilities and a fully enclosed outdoor play area. Some of the school rooms and grounds are also available to the pre-school. The pre-school serves the local area.

There are currently 51 children from three to five years on roll. This includes 33 funded 3 year olds and 18 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports some children with special needs.

The group opens 5 days per week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 to 12:00 and 13:15 to 15:45.

There is a team of four staff who work with the children, three of whom work part-time. There are usually three staff on duty at each session. All staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3 and have attended a variety of training courses.

How good is the Day Care?

Valley Pre-School provides good care for the children. They have detailed policies and procedures in place which underpin the organisation of the group, though some minor improvements are required. Staff work very well together as a team and provide good role models for the children. The pre-school and school premises are well used to provide opportunities for small and large group activities. Record keeping is well ordered and up to date. Some records need to include more detail.

The environment is warm and welcoming. Children's work, pictures and posters are displayed around the rooms to attract the children's interest. The premises are well maintained and there are appropriate safety precautions in place. Children's personal information is recorded prior to their admission to the pre-school to enable staff to meet their individual needs. The appropriate support is provided for any children with special needs.

There is a wide range of resources, including those which promote equality of opportunity. Children engage in a variety of interesting and enjoyable activities. These are planned in advance to ensure all areas of learning are covered. Children's

individual progress is monitored and recorded. Staff interact very well with the children. They provide the appropriate level of support, supervision and encouragement. Staff ask relevant questions which help to extend children's knowledge and understanding. Positive behaviour management techniques are used to promote good behaviour.

The pre-school have good systems in place to encourage partnership with parents. Written information is provided for parents about the pre-school and all parents are shown the policies and procedures. Parents are kept regularly informed of their child's progress and of the pre-school's activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the pre-school agreed to carry out five actions. These were to: obtain a copy of the school's public liability insurance, provide resources which reflected positive images of disability, compile a procedure for vetting and recruiting staff, provide a system for recording medication and designate a member of staff responsible for child protection. These had been carried out satisfactorily, thus enhancing the quality of the service.

What is being done well?

- The policies and procedures are clear and reflect the operation of the pre-school. All staff, students or other helpers in the group are required to read and abide by these. It is evident that staff have good knowledge of these as their practice reflects the pre-school's philosophy and operational plan.
- The premises are safe, secure and inviting to children. There are good systems in place to ensure strangers cannot access the premises and that children cannot leave unsupervised. There are risk assessments in place for the premises and outings. Bright colours have been used to paint the outdoor railings and other areas of the premises and there is ample natural light. This, plus the resources and many colourful displays make the pre-school attractive to children.
- There is a good selection of activities and resources. Children have ample opportunities to engage in creative, imaginative and physical activities. Outings to local places of interest are also included in the curriculum. Good use is made of the school facilities so that children can have space to run around or play with large apparatus indoors or out.
- The staff interaction with the children is very good. They talk, listen and question the children, as well as re-enforcing good manners and social skills. Praise and encouragement are used frequently and consequently children behave well.
- The partnership with parents is good. The children's progress is recorded and staff meet with parents to discuss their child and share information. Newsletters are provided and parents are invited to special events and outings.

What needs to be improved?

- one employment issue
- some records
- two procedural documents.

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
2	Ensure that there is continuity of care for the children and that ratios are maintained by providing appropriate employment agreements for staff.
14	Improve the record keeping as follows: fire drill record to include the numbers of children and adults present and the evacuation time; medical records to include the signature of staff when medication is given and written consent from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.
14	Compile procedures to be followed in the event of: a child becoming ill at pre-school and an allegation of abuse being made against a member of staff.

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.