



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305389

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/08/2003
Inspector Name David Corcoran

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care, Creche Day Care
Setting Name The Zoo & Lion's Den
Setting Address The Tytherington Club
Dorchester Way
Macclesfield
Cheshire
SK10 2JP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Ms Anne Bennett

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

The Zoo and Lions Den offer crèche and holiday playscheme ('Junior Club') facilities for children whose parents are members of The Tytherington Club. The Tytherington club are the registered providers with Mr. Daniel Sheratte being the nominated person. The crèche and holiday care are managed on a day to day basis by the person in charge. The crèche offers care for up to 45 children aged from three months to eight years of age, with parents remaining on the premises at all times. The crèche operates for 363 days per year, from 9.00am - 5.30pm, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9.15am - 5.30pm on Wednesdays, 9.15am - 8.30pm on Fridays, 10.00am - 5.00pm on Saturdays and 10.00am - 4.00pm on Sundays. There are 19 members of staff who work with the children on a rota basis across the week, nine of whom are qualified or in the process of training. The Junior Club offers school holiday playscheme facilities for up to 26 children aged from six years. It offers a morning session, 9.30am - 12.20pm, and an afternoon session 12.30 - 3.30pm, Monday - Friday. The manager holds an appropriate child care qualification. There are three other staff who hold, amongst them, teaching/coaching qualifications in sports, art and dance.

How good is the Day Care?

The Zoo and Lions Den Creche and Junior Club provides satisfactory crèche and out of school care.

The children are cared for by staff who are suitable and adequately qualified. Good staff:child ratios ensure that children are well supported.

Play areas are spacious, allowing children to move freely from one area to another, although it is unfortunate that there is no outdoor play area for the crèche. The Lions Den room offers good opportunities for physical play. The premises are clean and well maintained, although the temperature in the crèche seems to indicate that the air conditioning system is unable to cope with very hot weather. The Junior Club has access to good outdoor facilities.

There is a good range of play materials, equipment and resources available which supports children's play and learning, allowing them to develop their own ideas. Some awareness of diversity is promoted through the play resources, but this needs to be expanded to include resources that help children learn about disability.

There are effective recording systems, children's details are kept securely and written policies and procedures are easy to understand, although some amendments to the documentation are required.

Children are kept safe, and there are good systems in place to ensure good hygiene. Individual health and dietary needs are met. Children in the crèche are made aware of fire safety, but evacuation procedures had not been practised in the Junior Club.

Children have access to a wide range of stimulating activities, promoting their learning and development. They appear happy, interested and enthusiastic, and are able to make choices for themselves and are encouraged to develop confidence and self-esteem, play happily together and show care and consideration for each other.

Staff interact positively with parents, who are provided with written information about the provision and kept informed about children's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to add a statement regarding bullying to the behaviour management procedures. This is now in place, and available to parents. Most of the actions raised when the Junior Club provision was added to the crèche registration (July 2003) have been addressed appropriately, although parents of children attending the holiday playscheme have not been fully informed about the complaints procedure.

What is being done well?

- There is an effective recruitment policy, which has regard for equality of opportunity and provides children with positive role models.
- Staff development is supported by the availability of training eg all staff attended Child Protection training in 2002.
- Children are well supported by staffing levels that exceed minimum requirements.
- Play areas are spacious and well laid out and play equipment is easily accessible, enabling children to move freely and make choices. A good balance of free play and adult supported activities ensure that children's development is promoted - staff interact positively with the children, showing interest in them, praising and encouraging them and offering comfort when distressed.
- There is a strong commitment to equality of opportunity for all - several children with additional needs attend, and staff offer good support to ensure that those children are cared for according to their needs and that they have the same opportunities as any other child.
- There are rigorous safety procedures and an effective registration system which keeps children safe and ensures that all individual needs are recorded and known to staff. Children's understanding of hygiene is promoted by the staff and through activities.

- Relationships with parents are good - staff are friendly and approachable and exchange information with parents about their children's progress.

What needs to be improved?

- the stock of play equipment, to include resources which promote an awareness of disability;
- fire safety, to ensure that children attending the Junior Club are made aware of emergency evacuation procedures;
- the physical environment, to ensure a comfortable temperature in the crèche when the weather is hot;
- the documentation,
 - to include written procedures for uncollected children;
 - to ensure that all emergency evacuations are recorded;
 - to ensure that parents provide prior written consent to the administration of medication;
 - to ensure that current insurance documentation is available for inspection;
 - to ensure that all parents are made aware of the complaints procedure and Ofsted's address and telephone number;
 - to include in the crèche Child Protection Statement, procedures with regard to allegations of abuse against members of staff.

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
14	devise written procedures for uncollected children
4	keep the temperature within a comfortable range in hot weather

6	ensure that all children are made aware of emergency evacuation procedures and that these are recorded.
9	expand the stock of play resources to include equipment which promotes an awareness of disability
14	ensure that parents provide prior written consent to the administration of medication
14	ensure that current insurance documentaion is available for inspection
14	ensure that all parents are made aware of the complaints procedure and Ofsted's address and telephone number
14	include in the crèche Child Protection Statement, procedures with regard to allegations of abuse against members 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.