



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY279965

DfES Number: 545274

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 14/10/2004
Inspector Name Christine Powlesland

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Happy Days South West Ltd Penrice
Setting Address Penrice Hospital
Porthpean Road
St. Austell
Cornwall
PL26 6AA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Happy Days South West Limited 4802038

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Happy Days South West Limited
Address F2 Business Park
Treloggan Industrial Estate
Newquay
Cornwall
TR7 2SX

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care in accordance with the National Standards for Under Eights Day Care and Childminding; and that the nursery education for funded three and four year old children is of an acceptable quality. Inspection of nursery education also identifies strengths and weaknesses so that providers can improve the quality of educational provision and help children to achieve the early learning goals (elgs) by the end of the Foundation Stage. This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

If the setting has been inspected previously, an action plan will have been drawn up to tackle issues identified. This inspection, therefore, must also assess what progress has been made in the implementation of this plan.

Information about the setting

Happy Days South West Ltd Penrice is one of 17 provisions run by Happy Days South West Ltd. It opened in 2001 and operates from four rooms in a purpose-built nursery building. It is situated in the grounds of Penrice Hospital on the outskirts of St Austell. A maximum of 50 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:30 to 18:00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 92 children aged from birth to under eight years on roll. Of these 27 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from St Austell and the surrounding areas. Currently no children with special educational needs or children with English as an additional language attend the nursery.

The nursery employs 15 staff, one is currently on maternity leave. Twelve of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Three staff are working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Happy Days South West Ltd Penrice provides good care for children. Careful records are kept of all children and adults on the premises and children are protected from adults who have not completed checks. There is a clear induction procedure for all staff which includes regular meetings for support. The purpose built nursery is welcoming with a homely atmosphere and enables the children to develop independence through access to a wide range of toys and equipment. Documents for the safe running of the nursery are maintained.

Staff give high priority to ensuring children's safety and regular risk assessments are carried out. Good hygiene practices operate throughout the nursery with clear policies in place for administering medication and recording accidents and incidents. Healthy and nutritious meals are provided with fresh ingredients used on a daily basis and children are given, or have access to regular drinks. All children are known well as individuals however there are limited resources reflecting differing

lifestyles for children to relate to. Staff support children with special needs and work closely with parents to promote the welfare and development of each child. Staff are aware of the child protection procedure to be followed if they have concerns about a child.

Staff offer an excellent standard of care, using questioning well to help children develop their thinking process. Sleep times are well managed for individual children with a quiet, relaxed environment provided in which they can rest or sleep. Children play well together in small groups and have formed friendships. Their behaviour is generally very good with staff using appropriate methods to manage their behaviour.

There is a good exchange of information with parents on a daily basis and parent's evenings are held termly. A clear complaints procedure is displayed but no record of any complaint is provided. Parents are very positive about the nursery and feel welcome at any time.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the nursery was asked to consider the sleep and space arrangements in the tiddler room. Children in this room have individual sleep mats with clean sheets daily. The blinds are drawn at sleep time and a member of staff sits with the children as they fall asleep. If a child does not wish to sleep they can sit on comfy floor cushions and look at books in a different area of the room whilst the others rest.

The nursery was also asked to consider safe access to the outside walkway. This is sloping and has been recovered. The new surface has made it safe for children to use when accessing the outside area.

What is being done well?

- Provision for babies and children under two is very good. Staff give excellent attention to meeting babies individual needs for eating and sleeping. They provide activities to give toddlers interesting sensory experiences.
- Close links have been made with parents and there is a daily two-way exchange of information. Parents are very positive about the nursery. They feel welcome at any time and have access to evenings where they can discuss their children's progress in more depth.
- Healthy and nutritious meals are provided with a varied menu followed. Children are aware of how to access drinks as they need them throughout the day. Mealtimes are a social event when staff sit with small groups of children round tables to encourage good manners and an enjoyment of mealtimes.

What needs to be improved?

- the increase of resources which reflect positive images of differing lifestyles,

culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.

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
9	Ensure that all children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

INSPECTION OF THE NURSERY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR FUNDED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS.

How effective is the nursery education?

Happy Days South West Ltd Penrice nursery provides good-quality nursery education which enables children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals. Provision for knowledge and understanding of the world is particularly well planned and children make very good progress in this area.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Clear planning is displayed with stimulating activities provided for all six areas of learning. Staff know the children well and support their play and learning appropriately. They are suitably deployed and work well as a team. Their consistent approach promotes good behaviour and creates a welcoming learning environment. Everyday routines do not always sufficiently challenge the older or more able children and activities are not always extended to stimulate their development. Assessment records are not always clear or used effectively to identify needs which inform future planning.

The leadership and management of the setting is very good. Roles and responsibilities of staff are clearly defined and staff receive good levels of support from the nursery chain lead teacher. The owners of the nursery chain are committed to good quality care and they visit the nursery regularly to liaise with staff. Staff from other nurseries share ideas of good practice and how to improve quality.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Detailed information about the learning intentions is given to parents each half term and includes suggestions for parents of how they can support their child's learning at home. Information is shared regularly in an informal manner and regular newsletters are provided. Parents are encouraged to contribute to the nursery, such as providing items for the interest table. Termly evening meetings are held to share details on children's progress in more depth.

What is being done well?

- Parents and carers are kept well informed of their children's progress. Details of the learning intentions for the next half term are sent home. These include suggestions for parents to become involved in this learning by supporting their child with specific activities at home.
- Children learn well in the area of knowledge and understanding of the world. A variety of good opportunities is provided for them to explore and investigate. They show an interest in their local environment and visit this over a period of time to observe changes.
- Staff know the children well and use questioning to encourage them to think, giving time for the children to consider before answering. Planning is detailed and clear. It is displayed in the room for the staff team to follow.

What needs to be improved?

- the extension of activities to challenge the older and more able children
- the use of clear assessment records to identify needs which inform future planning

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident and are secure in the routine of the day, helping to tidy away when the music is played. They are independent in personal skills and help to take responsibility for their environment by preparing the tables for snack time. The children are polite and well behaved but all the children do not have opportunities to show care and concern for the animals in the room.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

The children are confident communicators with each other and adults. They enjoy regular group story times and handle books in an appropriate manner. They recognise their names at registration. Rhymes are enjoyed. Children concentrate well when linking the sound to an item in the phonic bag. They draw and paint freely and can discuss their pictures. Older and more able children are not regularly encouraged to extend their skills in writing in meaningful situations, such as naming their pictures.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are able to count and calculate if the pieces of fruit are sufficient for the number of children at snack time. They use positional and size language during play. They can recognise when two groups of different fruit contain the same number of items. Children are not encouraged to use routine practical activities for counting, such as setting the tables for lunch. Plans show children are beginning to recognise shapes.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children have good opportunities to explore and investigate, carefully removing the shell from acorns then splitting them in half to see the inside. They build and construct using a wide range of materials. They operate the computer with confidence and interact with simple programmes. They show interest in their local environment and observe the changes that occur such as leaves changing colour and falling from trees. They are beginning to know about their own and other cultures and beliefs.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children move safely and confidently around their play space. They use a range of tools and equipment with increasing control and an awareness of safety. They are aware of their own needs and remove jumpers when they become hot. They have limited access to large equipment and the outdoor hard-surfaced play area is small. They do not always make progress when outdoors as learning intentions are not always planned and the time is seen as recreational.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children have many opportunities to explore colour, texture and form by the use of a variety of different media. They enjoy singing and can tap out rhythms and explore how sounds can be changed. They participate well in organised role play. Music is used to shape everyday routines, such as tidying away to music. Older and more able children do not always have opportunities to extend activities, such as cutting out their own leaf shapes to colour and stick, or drawing their own tree.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. The next inspection will take place in three to four years time.

WHAT THE SETTING NEEDS TO DO NEXT: THE KEY ISSUES

- ensure activities are extended to stimulate the older and more able children
- provide clear assessment records which identify need and inform future planning.

The provider must draw up an action plan within 40 working days of receipt of this report showing how the key issues detailed above will be addressed. The action plan must be made available to all parents and to the Local Authority if required. An evaluation of the action taken will form part of the next inspection of funded nursery education.

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.