



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305351

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 04/12/2003
Inspector Name Janice Linsdell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Sunshine Under Fives Centre
Setting Address Percival Road
The Dale
Chester
Cheshire
CH2 4AH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Management Committee Sunshine Under 5's Centre

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

Sunshine Under Fives Centre opened in 1986 and offers a crèche and pre-school facility for children from six months to under five years. The centre operates from a building located on The Dale Camp in Chester. It serves children from military families and also children from the wider community.

There are currently 25 children from 14 months to under 5 years on roll. This includes eight funded three year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children with special needs and there are no children attending who speak English as an additional language.

The centre opens five days a week during school term times, between the hours of 09.15 and 12.15.

Four part-time staff work with the children. Three members of staff have early years qualifications and two staff members are working towards the NVQ level 3 qualification.

As the centre is in receipt of funding for nursery education, they have access to a Foundation Stage teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Sunshine Under 5's Centre provides good quality care for children under five years.

The premises are secure and the environment is welcoming and stimulating for the children. The centre is well organised and staff are deployed effectively to accommodate children's needs. All staff are qualified or working towards an early years qualification. They have also attended further training courses to enhance their knowledge and skills. Relevant documentation is maintained, according to regulation. Most records are available for inspection and contain sufficient and accurate detail.

The session is well planned and children take part in a range of activities and play experiences to help them learn and develop. The room is well set out with a good selection of toys and equipment to support children's play. Staff are vigilant about the children's safety at all times and they take positive steps to reduce any hazards on the premises. Good hygiene practices are promoted within the group and children

learn about personal hygiene through the daily routine.

Children are happy and settled and consistent daily routines help them to feel secure and enjoy their day. They take an interest in their environment and participate fully in all activities. Staff help children to learn about different cultures and religions and they encourage children to respect and value each other. Children's behaviour is well managed and staff use positive methods to encourage and promote good behaviour within the group.

Staff develop good relationships with parents and keep them informed about the provision and the children's progress and development. Detailed information is obtained from parents about the children, to enable staff to provide appropriate care and support. Feedback from parents is positive about the friendly and approachable staff, the quality of care that children receive, the variety of activities provided and the excellent communication between staff and parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the centre agreed to address the following actions:

improve systems to record children's attendance, accidents and incidents, update the policy regarding complaints and confirm the safety of gas and electrical appliances and fittings.

All of these actions have been completed appropriately. Parents are required to sign children in and out of the provision, which maintains an accurate record of the hours of children's attendance. Full details are recorded in the accident book and all accidents are signed by staff and parents. A record is maintained of any significant incidents relating to children's behaviour and of any existing injuries. Staff discuss the incident record with parents but at the moment, parents do not sign the book to acknowledge the entry.

The complaints policy has been updated, with reference to the role of Ofsted, although the contact details included in the policy are incorrect and need to be amended. The gas safety certificate confirms that all gas appliances and fittings conform to safety requirements. The Manager confirmed that the electrical safety of the building was satisfactory, but the electrical safety certificate was unavailable for inspection.

What is being done well?

- The session is well organised to meet children's needs. Staff's training and experience has a positive impact on the children's care. Children participate in activities with enthusiasm and enjoy their play.
- Staff use a variety of songs to help children to learn about the daily routine, which creates a pleasant and happy environment. Children are also learning to use sign language, which is used frequently throughout the session.
- Equal opportunities is well promoted and children are encouraged to learn

and appreciate other cultures and religions.

- Staff effectively manage a range of children's behaviours, which at times can be quite difficult and aggressive. They have clear expectations of children's behaviour and use positive strategies to acknowledge and reinforce good behaviour.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements for ensuring that all committee members complete appropriate vetting procedures
- the procedures for obtaining evidence of electrical safety of the building.

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
1	Ensure all committee members complete appropriate vetting procedures.
6	Obtain evidence that electrical appliances and fittings conform to safety requirements and ensure that this information is available for inspection.

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.