



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY236227

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	29/10/2003
Inspector Name	Janette Mary White

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	1st Friends
Setting Address	Our Lady of Gillingham Ingram Road Gillingham Kent ME7 1YL

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The partnership of 1st Friends Day Nursery Ltd
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	1st Friends Day Nursery Ltd
Address	7 Wallace Road Rochester Kent ME1 2SZ

## 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

1st Friends Nursery opened in 2002. The group operates from four rooms in an old school building in Gillingham and serves the local Medway area.

The setting opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 7.00 to 18.00.

There are currently 39 children from 3 months to 6 years on roll. This includes 10 funded 3-year-olds and 4 funded 4-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are 4 children who have special needs and the group supports 2 children who speak English as an additional language. In addition 1 child uses sign language.

There are six staff who work with the children and all have early years qualifications. One member of staff is currently on a training course. The setting receives support from a teacher from the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) and is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PLA).

### How good is the Day Care?

1st Friends provides satisfactory care for children. The staff have clear routines that help children feel secure and to develop positive relationships. They have considered the safety issues indoors and children have an awareness of potential dangers. However, risk assessments have not been completed on the outdoor play areas.

The staff develop plans for activities. They ensure that children are involved in a range of activities. They have consistent everyday routines for eating, resting and playing. They give adequate attention to developing children's understanding of good hygiene practice.

The staff at 1st Friends have positive relationships with parents. They share information about the children and discuss activities and children's achievements. There are clear procedures and behaviour boundaries that are understood by both children and parents. The staff described a positive attitude to discipline and children have consistent boundaries. Although some relevant paperwork is in place, this lacks some essential detail.

**What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

**What is being done well?**

- The group makes positive use of all the available space, staff and other resources. The children benefit from the choice of activities.
- The group have positive relationships with children. The staff enjoy their company and know them well. The children are settled.
- The group plan a range of activities for children of different ages. The children play enthusiastically with the selection of toys and equipment.
- The group help the children to understand about safety in the indoor areas. The children are able to make adequate use of the space.
- The children respond well to clear guidance and praise. They take part in planned activities and are happy to tidy away toys afterwards.
- The group is organized and presents parents with written information about their service.

**What needs to be improved?**

- the operational plan
- the evacuation plans and maintenance of the fire log book
- the written parental consent for children to be transported in a vehicle
- the written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment
- the staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

**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
6	Conduct a risk assessment on the outdoor areas identifying actions to be taken to minimize identified risks.
6	Ensure that premises are secure and that children are unable to leave them unsupervised.
7	Keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children.
12	Make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint.

## **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.*