



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109589

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/04/2003
Inspector Name Maria Lumley

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name Postman Pat Pre-School
Setting Address Scout Hall
Poole
Dorset
BH17 8AP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Postman Pat Pre-School 1032255

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

Postman Pat Pre school operates from a Scout Hall in a residential part of Canford Heath, Poole which is easily accessible from the Dorset way by-pass. The premises offer a large hall for the majority of activities, a small hall that is used for meals, a separate kitchen and a fully enclosed outdoor play area. The group operate 9.00am - 3.00pm term time only, offering flexible choice of sessions to include lunch times. Postman Pat Pre school is registered for a maximum of 26 children aged 2-5 years, there are currently 67 children on the register. Children with Special Needs are welcomed into the setting. The group have a staff of eight; six of who hold relevant childcare qualifications and the remaining two intend to commence training in the near future. Postman Pat Pre school is committee run.

How good is the Day Care?

Postman Pat Pre school provides satisfactory care for children aged 2-5 years. Organisation is generally good, staff well deployed throughout the day. However, lunchtimes were not well organised and children became bored and disruptive whilst waiting for their lunch. Staff provide a safe environment for the children, they have a good awareness of policies in place and have recently attended Health and Safety training. Staff are involved and have an active role in planning for the children's learning and provide a range of activities to support their development. They operate a successful key worker system. Staff work well together as a team and meet children's individual needs, acting as positive role models. Partnership with parents is good. There are good systems in place for keeping parents informed about the setting and their child's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider agreed to produce confirmation that all staff have been vetted, devise an action plan to show how space is to be used to allow for range of activities, including rest and to ensure that children are not exposed to hazardous objects in the garden. Confirmation of staff checks are now in place and available for viewing. The group have written up an action plan, which clearly outlines how the space is used. New fencing has been erected around the perimeter of the outside play area and written procedures are now in place for ensuring the area is checked for hazardous objects prior to use by children.

What is being done well?

There is a strong emphasis on working in partnership with parents. There are systems in place to ensure parents are kept informed about their child's progress and confidentiality is maintained. (Standard 12) The group are committed to staff training and development. Several staff have recently completed Health and Safety, First Aid and Child Protection courses. (Standard 2) The group have a comprehensive induction procedure. New staff are aware of how the group operate and their responsibilities within the group. (Standard 2) Staff have a good understanding of special needs and have regard to the Code of Practice. Staff work closely with parents and relevant professionals to ensure that children receive consistent care. (Standard 10)

What needs to be improved?

the organisation of the day to ensure children are kept involved and occupied.(Standard 2) the condition of toilets to reduce the risks.(Standard 4)

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
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The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	Consider lunchtime arrangements to ensure children are kept occupied. Keep records of times of arrival and departure of children.
4	Ensure the girls' toilets are free from mould.
4	Ensure that children cannot get locked in the toilets.
5	Ensure children have access to a range of resources to enable them to have choices.

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.