



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY262363

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	17/11/2004
Inspector Name	Ann Bamford

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	St. Mary's Nursery
Setting Address	St. Mary's College Shear Brow Blackburn Lancashire BB1 8DX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St. Mary's Nursery
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St. Mary's Nursery
Address	St. Mary's College Shear Brow Blackburn Lancashire BB1 8DX

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

St Mary's Nursery offers care from within the grounds of St Mary's College. This lies on the edge of the Bastwell, Shear Brow and Corporation Park wards of Blackburn. The nursery is close to motorway links and can be accessed via local transport networks. It has been open since 2003.

The nursery is registered to provide Full Day Care for sixty children under eight years. The hours of opening are Monday to Friday 07:30 to 18:00 for 51 weeks of the year. In addition the nursery provides occasional crèche facilities, as and when required, during evenings or weekends in order to accommodate adult learners.

St Mary's Nursery is a 50% Neighbourhood Nursery. The nursery also provides day care for students and members of the community within Blackburn with Darwen and surrounding areas.

Children are cared for in designated areas: for under two's, tweenies, and pre school aged children. A large secure outdoor play area is available that is divided into different areas for different ages of children.

The nursery employs a total of 18 staff including the manager. All staff are qualified to a suitable standard and five are working towards NVQ 3. There is a cook.

At the time of inspection there were 89 children on roll, 13 of whom attend full time. The setting supports children who have English as an additional language and special needs.

How good is the Day Care?

St Mary's Nursery provides a good standard of care for children.

The setting is well maintained, clean and child focussed. Good use is made of the space both in the nursery and the garden. This enables children of all ages to play in safety. Staff are recruited who are suitable to work with children. They are encouraged to continue their professional development whilst working at the nursery. There are clear operational procedures. Staff make effective use of these to provide care. There is a range of toys and equipment which are readily available to children. Older children can select their own equipment and toys. Records are available that contribute to the safe care of children.

The setting is safe. Staff make good use of the policy and procedures to ensure that the environment remains safe. Staff are clear of their roles in the event of an emergency. Staff are active in promoting good hygiene. They use the policies relating to medication and accidents well in order to provide children with safe care. Food and drink, that is nutritious, is provided regularly to children. Staff gather information on children's needs in order to provide appropriate care. Staff knowledge on their role in protecting children is generally good.

There is a range of activities offered to children. They are interesting and appropriate. These activities assist children's development in each area of learning. Children in all areas of the nursery are able to experience periods of activity and relaxation. Staff hold expectations that children will behave well, and they do.

The setting works in partnership with parents. It continues to develop frameworks for communicating with parents. There is comprehensive written information for parents on how care is offered. Good use is made of notice boards and displays to inform parents of what is happening. Key workers are responsible for communicating verbal information to parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The nursery's recruitment and selection policy ensures that staff are suitable to work with children. The nursery uses appraisal and training to ensure that staff maintain and develop their skills in caring for children. The organisation of staffing allows a high child/adult ratio for significant amounts of the day.
- Staff make effective use of planning to provide a range of activities which stimulate children.
- Children are involved in a broad range of activities in each area of the nursery. Older children are able to select some activities freely. Children are engaged in play throughout their time in the nursery. Older children are able to engage in collaborative play.
- Each area of the nursery has a good range of toys and equipment to meet children's needs.
- Staff work alongside children encouraging them to make use of equipment. The high staff ratio allows even very small children to attempt activities such as painting and other creative work.
- Staff make effective use of the written policies and procedures provided for them. Each member of staff knows their role in the event of a fire. The plan is practised regularly with children. Staff make effective use of the written checklists provided to ensure that the environment remains safe.
- Staff are active in promoting good hygiene in children. They make effective use of routines in order to encourage children to be able to meet their own

hygiene needs. Children are able to take increasing responsibility for their own hygiene needs. There is a clear policy and procedure for the administration of medication. Records relating to this are stored effectively in individual children's files. This increases safe care.

- The setting provides extensive information for parents about how it encourages positive behaviour. Staff are active in using routines and praise as a means of assisting children to behave well. Children are expected to behave well and they do.

What needs to be improved?

- the policy and procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation against a member of staff and its understanding by staff.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
13	Update the policy and procedure to be used in the event of allegations re staff and ensure that it is understood by all 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.