



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 254477

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/12/2003
Inspector Name	Michelle Smith

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Palfrey Day Nursery
Setting Address	Palfrey Community Centre Milton Street, Palfrey Walsall West Midlands

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Palfrey Community Association
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Palfrey Community Association
Address	Milton Street Palfrey Walsall West Midlands WS1 4LA

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

Palfrey Crèche opened in 2000. It operates from three rooms within Palfrey Community Building in Palfrey, Walsall. The crèche serves the local area.

There are currently 35 children on roll from two to five years. The setting are also registered to accept babies. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children with special needs, and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 09:00 until 16:00 with an additional breakfast club opening 08:00 until 09:00 and a teatime club from 16:00 until 18:00.

Four full time and two part time staff work directly with the children. Over half of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. Three full time students work with the children. The setting receives support from the Community Association, Sure start and the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Palfrey Crèche provides satisfactory care for children. Children's art work is bright and well displayed creating a warm, welcoming environment in which to care for children. Staff are effectively deployed for majority of the time. Staff and parents easily understand a comprehensive range of well organised documents. There are weaknesses in the process for recording children's attendance.

Positive steps are taken to keep children safe. Staff are very good at reducing hazards when accessing the outside play area. Children's good health and hygiene is well promoted although there are weaknesses in the process for recording accidents.

There are good opportunities to extend children's physical and imaginative development. However, a lack of free choice and restricted access to equipment results in children's learning needs not being met and children behaving inappropriately. Staff work hard to include all children in activities but do not always recognise when an activity does not interest the child.

Relationships with parents are good. Staff welcome parents in their preferred community language. A regular exchange of information ensures parents are kept up to date with their child and the setting.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- Opportunities for physical play are good. Children enjoy combining physical and imaginative play. Staff are good at encouraging all children to participate in activities. Majority of children join in and enjoy the opportunities.
- Children are safe and well cared for. Staff are particularly vigilant about children's safety when accessing the outside play area.
- Documents are well organised and easily understood by parents and staff. There are a wide range of policies and procedures available.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures to accurately record children's attendance
- staff deployment and the grouping of children during the lunch time period to ensure all children have the opportunity to enjoy a sociable, relaxed meal time
- play opportunities which are planned to meet the needs of all children, and provide opportunities for children to easily access and chose their own equipment and activities
- staff response to children's inappropriate behaviour, recognising why children are behaving inappropriately and respond accordingly
- procedures for ensuring all accidents are signed by parents and recorded in such a way as to maintain confidentiality.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date
3	Devise a system for planning and implementing a suitable range of activities for children, which includes children's choice and is based on their individual needs.	08/02/2004
5	Ensure children can access toys and equipment easily.	08/02/2003
7	Ensure all accidents are signed by parents and confidentiality is maintained within records.	08/12/2003

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure staff are effectively deployed and children are grouped appropriately during lunch time.
2	Make sure children's attendance is accurately recorded.
11	Ensure staff respond to children's inappropriate behaviour effectively.

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.