



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 508609

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	24/06/2003
Inspector Name	Nicola Mary Eileen Matthews

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Battisford Playgroup
Setting Address	Community Centre Straight Road, Battisford STOWMARKET SUFFOLK IP14 2LP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Alison Knights
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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

Battisford Playgroup opened over 25 years ago. It is a voluntary group registered as a charity. It operates from one room, in a community centre, in the rural village of Battisford near Stowmarket. The playgroup serves a wide local area.

The group is registered to provide places for 20 children. There are currently 21 children from two to five years on roll. This includes three funded three year olds and 11 funded four year olds. Children attend a variety of sessions. There are currently no children attending whose first language is not English or who have special needs.

The pre-school opens four days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9.30 a.m. until 12.00 p.m.

Two part time and one full time staff work with the children. All have Early Years qualifications.

The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Battisford Playgroup provides good quality care for children aged two to five years.

Staff ensure children are safe in and outside the provision and provide a secure environment in which children can play happily. Staff ensure that the children's dietary needs are maintained and that they are developing healthy eating habits.

Staff have good knowledge of child development and have attended level three and above training. Staff update the children's developmental records regularly and encourage parents to contribute on a half termly basis. Staff treat the children with equal concern and provide for children's individual care and play needs well.

Staff organise a wide range of good quality play resources and activities for each session, to enable children to consolidate and progress in their learning. Children are developing their independence and concentration skills by being able to play for long periods of time at their chosen activity. Children's behaviour is good.

There is good partnership with parents and carers. They are provided with an attractive, informative brochure and encouraged to participate in their child's early learning, through being a member of the management committee and taking part in

the session. Policies and procedures are contained in this information, some of which are not complete.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider agreed to ensure that the outdoor play area was safe, secure and well maintained. The area has been fenced off and the gates secure, however the edge of the tin wall is exposed and hazardous.

What is being done well?

- The staff provide a good, well balanced, varied curriculum and sensitive adult support at each session to enable children to consolidate and progress in their overall development, through uninterrupted play (Standard 3)
- The staff provide a welcoming and child centred environment to enable children to feel secure and motivated to learn (Standard 4)
- The staff meet the individual care needs of the children well, which promotes the child's self esteem and keeps them safe and healthy, whilst at playgroup (Standard 7)
- The children's behaviour is good, they demonstrate that they know the agreed codes of behaviour and play well together taking turns and sharing (Standard 11)
- The partnership with parents is good and they are encouraged to take an active part in their child's early care and education (Standard 12)

What needs to be improved?

- some safety aspects inside and outdoors (Standard 6)
- the updating of first aid training (Standard 7)
- the availability of fresh drinking water all of the session (Standard 8)
- some aspects in the policies and procedures for child protection, behaviour management and medication records (Standard 14)

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
6	ensure hazards inside and outdoors are minimised, this refers to the committee room and the sheet of tin outside
7	ensure there is one member of staff with a current first aid certificate on the premises at all times
8	ensure fresh drinking water is available all of the time
14	ensure the child protection policy includes procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer, the behaviour policy includes bullying and that parents counter sign entries in the administration of medication record

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.