



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 303769

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/12/2004
Inspector Name Duncan Gill

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Little Learners Day Care
Setting Address Church Lane
Brighouse
West Yorkshire
HD6 1AT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Little Learners Pre-School Day Care
Committee 1090275

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Little Learners Pre-School Day Care Committee
Address Little Learners Day Care
Church Lane
Brighouse
West Yorkshire
HD6 1AT

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

Little Learners Pre-school day care has been registered for 15 years. It is committee run and operates from two main rooms in Brighthouse Adult Education Centre. The group serves families from the surrounding area. A maximum of 20 children may attend at any one time.

The playgroup is open for five days per week, term time and some holidays, and offers full day or sessional care from 09.30 to 15.30. Children have access to a small outside play area. There are currently 43 children on roll, of these 19 children receive funding for nursery education. The setting currently supports a number of children with special educational needs.

Five members of staff work with the children and they have appropriate child care qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Little Learners Pre-School Day Care provides satisfactory care for children. The setting is very warm and welcoming with excellent evidence of children's play and activity. It is mostly well organised, although there is no operational plan. Suitable policies and records are in place, which contribute to the management of the setting.

Staff have a good awareness of potential hazards to children and take most steps to promote safety. They fully encourage children to practice good routines of personal hygiene and meet their dietary needs. Staff highly value all children as individuals, regardless of ability, treating them with equal concern and are aware of their responsibilities to the children in their care.

Toys and play equipment are well maintained and children can freely access the range on offer. A wide range of enjoyable activities fully involve and interest children and promote their all round development. A broad range of strategies are used to effectively deal with behaviour. Children know the rules and respond by behaving very well.

Staff have strong and trusting relationships with parents and keep them fully informed about the setting and their child.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting was asked to ensure there is sufficient equipment for children over five, provide a named member of staff for behaviour and review the behaviour policy to incorporate bullying. They were also asked to ensure the second room was made safe if used permanently.

The second room is now used on a permanent basis and staff have ensured children cannot access radiators and pipes to ensure the environment is safe. There is a named member of staff responsible for behaviour, the policy includes bullying and children behave very well. Sufficient equipment is now in place to ensure children over five have a balanced range of activities.

What is being done well?

- A wide range of enjoyable activities that fully involve and interest children and promotes their imagination, language and creative development, are available. Staff are very interested in the children. They consistently talk to them asking questions to make them think and respond giving praise and encouragement. Children build warm relationships with each other and staff and are keen to communicate with them. Staff fully encourage children to make decisions, explore and investigate their surroundings.
- A broad range of strategies are used to effectively manage behaviour. These include distraction, explanation and time out. There are clear and consistent boundaries, which children know and respond by behaving very well. Staff value good behaviour, using praise, rewards and their warm relationships with the children to promote positive behaviour.
- Parents have strong and trusting relationships with staff. Detailed registration forms are used to find out information about the children and ensure that parents needs are fully met. These include special requirements regarding diet, belief, contact details, likes and dislikes. Parents are kept fully informed about their child through newsletters, information sheets and notice boards. Policies and development files are freely available to parents, staff verbally share information with parents on a daily basis and children take their work home.

What needs to be improved?

- organisation, with regards to developing an operational plan and making this available to parents
- safety, with regards to ensuring electrical sockets are safe or inaccessible to children
- the written statement on special needs
- documentation with regards to the way records of medication administered to children is recorded and acknowledged by parents.

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

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
2	Develop an operational plan and make this available to parents.
6	Ensure electrical sockets are safe or inaccessible.
10	Develop the written statement on special needs.
14	Develop records of medicines administered to children, to ensure parents sign to acknowledge the entry.
14	Develop the ways of recording medicines administered to children, to maintain confidentiality.

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.