



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113671

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/12/2004
Inspector Name Diane Ryan

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Rascals Pre-School Playgroup
Setting Address Methodist Church Hall
Claigmar Road
Rustington
West Sussex
BN16 2NL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Rascals Pre-School Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Rascals Pre-School Playgroup
Address Rustington Methodist Church
Claigmar Road, Rustington
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN16 2NL

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

Rascals Pre-School is a church run group. It opened in 1989 and operates from the Methodist Church Hall. It is situated in the village of Rustington, near Littlehampton, West Sussex. A maximum of twenty- six children may attend the pre-school at one time, six of these may be aged under three years. The Pre-School is open four days a week, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 09:30 - 12:15 term time only. There is no enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 20 children aged from two years to under five years on roll. Of these 14 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment/ the local residential area. The nursery currently support two children with special educational needs although at the present time have no children with English as an additional language.

The pre-school employs six staff. The manager and four staff hold an appropriate qualification. There is one member of staff working towards a qualification.

The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Rascals Pre-School provides good quality care.

The supervisors and most staff are suitably qualified and experienced to care for children and have updated their knowledge and understanding in a variety of areas through training courses attended. Effective procedures for appointing and vetting staff are in place. Space and resources are organised to meet children's needs effectively and the pre-school provides a warm and welcoming environment for all children, parents and carers. All documentation, policies and procedures are in place, which underpin the day-to-day running of the pre-school, and these are conformed to in practice.

Regular risk assessments enable staff to identify potential hazards and minimise accidents. Good routines for hand washing help children understand the need for good personal hygiene. Snacks and drinks are nutritious and help children to develop good eating habits. Staff have a good understanding of their role in child protection and know how to proceed if they have concerns, although records of

existing injuries needs to be kept confidential. Children are valued as individuals and their differences acknowledged. The provision for children with special needs is good.

Children are happy and confident and develop good relationships with staff and peers. They enjoy a broad range of well-planned activities that help develop independence and cater for all tastes. There is no outdoor area but staff plan well to ensure a good balance of physical and quiet play indoors. Staff listen to children and join in child initiated games. Behaviour management is good and children respond to well deserved praise.

Parents receive a prospectus that gives good information about the provision. Regular newsletters and a notice board inform parents of play themes. Parents find staff friendly and approachable.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not Applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff deployment is effective and ensures children are well supervised at all times. The children are well grouped and the key worker system ensures appropriate support and care throughout the session. Effective procedures for appointing and vetting staff are in place and most staff are qualified. There is a very effective induction programme that includes reading all policies.
- Children are involved in a broad range of activities that support their learning in all areas. They are independent and are free to make choices about the activities. There are good relationships between staff and children and the children and their peers.
- The security of premises is very good. Staff are very well deployed ensuring the safety of the children at all times and there are good procedures to ensure children's safety while on outings. The staff have a good understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a fire and effective procedures are in place for the safe arrival and departure of children.
- The staff are consistent in their approach to behaviour management and give lots of praise and encouragement. Children behave well and respond positively to requests for good behaviour.
- Parents receive good information about the provision through a parents' notice board, newsletters and displays, which keep them informed of activities and themes. Staff are friendly and approachable and make themselves available to talk with parents to give informal feedback.

What needs to be improved?

- the record of existing injuries

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.)

Since the last inspection Ofsted have not received any complaints about this provider.

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	Ensure a confidential record is kept of injuries a child arrives with.

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.