



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127386

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 11/01/2005
Inspector Name Linda Margaret Nicholls

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Molly's Pre-School
Setting Address Main Road
Longfield
Kent
DA3 7PW

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Nicola Ann Ewen

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

Molly's Pre-School was registered to provide sessional care in 1966. The pre-school is situated in Langafel Church of England School, Longfield, and occupies a large classroom.

There are currently 63 children from 2 and half to 5 years on roll. This includes 48 funded three and four year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with special educational needs and children with English as an additional language.

The pre-school is open each weekday morning from 9.00am to 12 noon, during term time. The pre-school provides three additional 'rising five' sessions, which start with one session in the Autumn term, two in the spring term and three from the summer term. These operate from 1.15pm to 3.45pm on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

There are ten pre-school staff who work with the children on a rota basis including the owner, four of whom hold appropriate qualifications. Three members of staff are training through the Profit for Learning scheme.

The pre-school is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance and has received help and support from a qualified teacher through the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Molly's Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. All staff have current paediatric first aid training. Required documents are in place. There are effective procedures for appointing staff although the induction process is informal. Future training plans are indicated in the operational plan. Staffing ratios are met. Space and resources are efficiently organised to meet children's needs. The premises are well maintained. Walls are used to display posters and children's work.

The safety and care of the children is considered and written risk assessments are in place. Staff are aware of health and safety procedures. All safety precautions are in place. Fire safety recommendations are met. Social and personal health routines are reinforced. Health records are maintained and children's personal requirements are met by staff. Nutritional advice is understood although there is limited choice of

foods at snack time. There is no current evidence of the impact of care for children with special educational needs. Latest child protection training was undertaken in 2004.

The range and quality of activities and their effect on children's well being, development and learning are good. Pre-school children can access equipment directly and are encouraged to explore and develop their skills. Adults spend time talking to children to develop their language and imagination. Role play activities engage children, are stimulating and develop physical confidence. Observations are made and next steps to learning are planned so that independent learning is achieved. There is a wide range of equipment giving positive images of cultural and physical diversity. Staff are consistent in their methods of obtaining acceptable behaviour. Children care for and respect each other.

The partnership with parents is good. Individual requirements and family preferences are sought. Information is shared. Parents are reassured and continuity of care is achieved.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The staff use positive and consistent strategies to manage children's behaviour. Children's individual needs are met. Children feel secure and play within clear boundaries. They are well behaved and care for each other.
- The group plans stimulating whole group activities which encourage social interaction, the development of physical coordination, rhythm and the use of memory. Rhymes and songs are used to engaged children in physical movements activities. Children enjoy making fierce faces and sounds and are happy in their play.
- The staff work well together as a team. They are well supported by the manager who encourages involvement their professional development. They relate to the children in a friendly, warm manner. Children are growing in confidence and developing independence.

What needs to be improved?

- the register to record times of arrival and departure
- the induction procedure to be formalised and recorded
- the parents awareness of policies and procedures
- the choice of foods at snack time.

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
8	Consider extending the choice of snack foods.
12	Ensure parents are aware of policies and procedures, and the induction procedure is formalised and recorded.

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.