



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY275280

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/12/2004  
Inspector Name Karen Ling

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Children's Choice at Southridge  
Setting Address Southridge First School  
Cranleigh Place  
Whitley Bay  
Tyne and Wear  
NE25 9UD

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Children's Choice Nursery Ltd 4783670

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Children's Choice Nursery Ltd  
Address Norham Road  
Monkseaton  
Whitley Bay  
Tyne and Wear  
NE26 3NR

## 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

Children's Choice at Southridge is one of two privately owned childcare provisions. It opened in January 2004 and is located within the grounds of Southridge Primary School in Whitley Bay. It operates from two separate demountable structures and has access to appropriate outdoor play areas and the school hall. Children's Choice incorporates wrap-around care for three to five-year-olds and a playgroup for two to three-year-olds.

The provision is registered to provide care for a maximum of 48 children between the ages of 2 and 5 years. There are currently 88 children on roll. Wrap-around care is provided for 51 weeks of the year and is open Monday to Friday from 08:00 until 18:00. The playgroup is open for 37 weeks of the year to run concurrently with school term times. Sessions run Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 09:00 until 11:30 and Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 12:25 until 14:55.

In the main the provision serves the local community with the majority of children moving onto the school. The provision is entitled to funding for three and four year olds and supports children with special needs and English as an additional language. Of the four staff who work with the children in the wrap-around care, two hold level three qualifications. Of the five staff who work in the playgroup, one holds a level three qualification and one is currently working towards level three. The provision has established links with the school and also receives support through the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

Children's Choice at Southridge provides good care for children. Staff provide a warm and friendly environment where children are happy and clearly enjoy coming to the playgroup and wrap-around care. Staff pay high regard to health and safety and the well being of children in their care and consistently encourage good hygiene routines. Staff use praise and encouragement to help build children's confidence and self-esteem. Children are well mannered and behaviour is very good throughout the provision. The operational plan works well in practice though currently the minimum number of qualified staff is not met. Policies and procedures are clear, contain the majority of necessary information and underpin the smooth running of the sessions.

Staff work well together in their teams. They plan and provide a wealth experiences

and a stimulating environment where children eagerly engage in a wide range of activities. Staff interact well to encourage children's development and children with special needs are supported well. Staff are aware of children's interests, help them to build on their own ideas and enable them to develop independence. This is particularly noticeable at mealtimes and during daily routine activities. The provision has a very good range of toys and equipment and resources are used well to support activities. Though resources reflect diversity within the wrap-around care there are insufficient within the playgroup.

Partnership with parents and carers is very good. Staff provide information in a variety of ways and informal daily exchange helps to keep parents informed about their child. Documentation is well organized and systems are in place to maintain confidentiality.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- In the short time the staff have been together they have worked extremely hard to establish good practices.
- Staff plan a wealth of activities which children enjoy.
- Staff set good role models and interact with children in a way that helps their development.
- There are good systems in place to support children with special needs.
- Staff value children's contributions and build on their ideas and interests.
- Staff work well together and sessions run smoothly.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- minimum qualifications of staff
- resources which reflect diversity in the playgroup
- the behaviour policy so that it includes a reference to unacceptable behaviour such as bullying.

#### **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**

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
9	Develop resources which reflect diversity and the backgrounds of children attending the provision.
11	Make reference to inappropriate behaviour such as bullying within the behaviour management statement.
2	Continue to work towards 50% of playgroup staff achieving a level II qualification in childcare.

## **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.*