



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY231354

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	17/09/2003
Inspector Name	Jenny Scarlett

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	The Cottages Play Away
Setting Address	Kingsclere Primary School Kingsclere Newbury Berkshire RG20 5RE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Cottages Day Nursery Ltd
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Cottages Day Nursery Ltd
Address	West Cottage, North Sydmonton House Ecchinswell, North Sydmonton Newbury Berkshire RG20 4UL

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

The Cottages Play Away Out Of School Club opened in 1998 and moved to its current premises in September 2002. It operates from the Kingsclere Primary School and serves the local community. The Out Of School Club has access to the Resource area and limited use of the hall for physical activities and library for quieter activities and homework.

There are currently 14 children aged 4 to 11 years on roll with an additional register of 24 casual users of the facility. Children attend for a variety of sessions with an option for parents to book out of school places on a casual basis. The setting supports children with special needs. There are no children attending who speak English as an additional language.

The Out Of School Club opens five afternoons a week during school term times. Sessions last from 3.15pm to 6.00pm.

Two part time staff work with the children. None of the staff hold an Early Years qualification. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

The Cottages Play Away offers satisfactory care for children. All the staff are new since the previous inspection however they have established their roles within the after school club thus providing a stable environment where parents and children can feel secure and make relationships with familiar people. None of the staff hold a qualification in Early Years however the management have identified the training and development needs for the staff. The management support the staff and show a good understanding of the National Standards and requirements for out of school care. All documentation is in place however some areas lack the necessary detail.

Staff give high priority to ensuring the safety of the children both indoors and out. They consistently carry out procedures detailed in the policies for health and safety. Good hygiene is promoted and the children are independent in their personal care. The play space is not used effectively with restrictions in available storage and display boards to promote a welcoming environment for the children and parents.

Children are confident and secure in their environment. The staff ensure the children

have access to a range of interesting and stimulating activities indoors and out. Activities provide suitable challenges for all children and are fun. The children are able to make choices in their activities. Staff are caring and sensitive to the children's needs and children's behaviour is well managed.

The children and their parents receive a warm welcome with informal discussions with parents highlighting the child's day. Parents receive regular informative newsletters and good information relating to the after school club.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A the previous inspection was transitional.

What is being done well?

- There are comprehensive policies and information for health and safety. Staff give high priority to the children's safety in the after school club.
- Staff are aware of the individual needs of the children. Staff use positive behaviour strategies to help the children understand acceptable behaviour and consideration to others.
- Staff provide opportunities for children to initiate and choose activities for themselves thus encouraging their independence and self reliance.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures for protecting staff against allegations of abuse;
- arrangements for promoting a welcome environment.
- procedures for ensuring staff are suitably qualified.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date
2	develop submit and implement an action plan that sets out how supervisors will achieve a level 3 qualification	30/11/2003

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
14	documentation to include; procedures for protecting staff against allegations of abuse.

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.