



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY285422

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/09/2004
Inspector Name Lynne Kathleen Talbot

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Creche Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Flitwick Leisure Centre
Setting Address Steppingley Road
Flitwick
Bedford
Bedfordshire
MK45 1TH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Stevenage Leisure Ltd. 3446357

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Stevenage Leisure Ltd.
Address Stevenage Arts & Leisure Centre
Lytton Way
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 1LZ

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

Flitwick Leisure Centre crèche and holiday activity clubs were registered in March 2004. The inspection was completed within the crèche facility which operates from an upper storey hall in Flitwick Leisure Centre that has appropriate facilities for care. The group serves the local community who use the facilities.

There are currently places offered for 26 children aged 0-5 years within crèche sessions and 30 children aged 5-8 years within holiday playscheme sessions. Crèche sessions open five days per week year round with holiday activities opening as dictated by term-times. Children attend sessions as booked and required by their parents or carers.

The setting currently supports one child with special needs. No children currently attend for whom English is a second language.

Six staff work within the crèche, the setting meets the required qualified staff ratio. One additional staff member is working towards a recognised early years qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Flitwick Leisure Centre Crèche provides good quality care for children.

The provision is very well organised and effective use is made of space, staff and resources to provide a stimulating and caring environment. Staff are guided by an agreed set of policies and procedures which they consistently implement.

High priority is given to ensuring children's safety with clear health and safety procedures in place. A minor aspect in this area has been identified to be addressed. Children are encouraged to develop good habits through example and routine.

Children are guided through areas of learning by effective planning, using the Early Learning Goals as a basis that adapts to where it is needed due to the nature of a crèche. Some attention is required to making that play beneficial and including parents within feedback.

The group actively introduces children to other cultures and traditions through activities and resources. All children are treated with equal concern and encouraged

to make full use of such activities. Staff set clear boundaries and have age appropriate expectations of the children attending.

There is a clear partnership with parents and carers. Parents are informed of all procedures and receive full documentation. Documentation does support the groups day to day operation and is reviewed to ensure that it continues to meet the demands of the group. Some information would support the staff development and care for children where a proactive approach towards special needs is required.

The setting has effective in-house training which ensures that areas of care remain reviewed, such as child protection.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- A comprehensive operational plan is in place with clear policies and procedures. Good management structure enables all staff to contribute to the overall planning and be valued within the group. A committed and stable staff group, where continued training is undertaken, contributes to the overall care for children fostering their development.
- Effective planning adapts to the particular needs of children attending where flexibility of approach works alongside having a broad range of activities on offer. Early Learning Goals are addressed and support the overall planning. An inviting environment with staff who show that children are considered as individuals who may benefit from a diverse range of play activities.
- Very clear health and safety procedures are in place which are followed by all staff. Risk assessments are regularly reviewed. Good procedures are in place to ensure that the premises are safe and secure with effective systems developed for the arrival and collection of children. The staff attitude and procedures ensure that children may play within a secure environment.
- The staff show good example of positive role models encouraging children to learn the effect of their behaviour on others. Clear boundaries are set that are re-enforced as necessary and consistently.

What needs to be improved?

- the methods of ensuring individuals are encouraged to develop personal hygiene
- the understanding and information held regarding care for children with special needs
- the methods of sharing information with parents regarding feedback on children.

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
7	ensure that good hygiene practices are in place regarding hand washing i.e. addressing methods that suit all children.
10	develop staff's knowledge and understanding of care for children with special needs and the relevant guiding legislation to ensure proactive care may be given.
12	consider methods of providing opportunities for parents to receive regular information about their children's progress

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.