



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127611

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 18/06/2004
Inspector Name Mary Van De Peer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name St Matthews High Brooms Pre-School
Setting Address St. Matthews Parish Hall
High Brooms Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN4 9DA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of St Matthews High Brooms Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St Matthews High Brooms Pre-School
Address Hillcrest Road
Edenbridge
Kent
TN8 6JS

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

St Matthews High Brooms Pre-School opened in 1975. It operates from two rooms in a church hall in Tunbridge Wells. The pre-school serves the local area.

There are currently 46 children from 2 years to 5 years on roll. This includes 12 funded 3 year-olds and 18 funded 4-year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports 3 children with special educational needs and 3 children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 to 15:00.

There are 9 staff who work with the children, of these 2 are full-time. Less than half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ Level two or three. There are 3 staff currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher and development worker from the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

St Matthew High Brooms Pre-School provides good quality care for children.

The staff work very well together as a team. They work to a plan ensuring children are supervised at all times. Staff provide a caring, safe and secure environment for children. Routine risk assessments are carried out, however, these are not recorded. Parents and carers are welcomed appropriately. The procedures for appointing new staff are effective. Although not all the staff have relevant childcare qualifications, they are working towards achieving this. There are four staff who have trained for their first aid certificate. There are good procedures for an emergency evacuation.

The pre-school has effective procedures for the support and care of children with special or additional needs and whose first language is not English. Staff are aware of the setting's appropriate child protection procedures.

The pre-school has a very good selection of toys, equipment and resources which can help children develop in all areas of learning. However, activities are not always used to their full advantage and benefit for all the children. Children are generally happy in their play and communicate and negotiate well with each other. Activities

would benefit from additional resources reflecting equal opportunities. Staff interact well with all the children, giving praise where appropriate. Children's behaviour is good and they respond well to guidance and set boundaries.

The pre-school has a good relationship with parents and carers. Parents confirm that they receive an appropriate amount of information about the setting. There is a key worker system for the benefit of the parents and the children, helping to ensure continuity of care.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were five actions resulting from the last inspection.

The complaints procedure is now available to parents - the provider is to check the correct Ofsted contact number.

The outdoor space is now secure and children use it regularly.

There is now a clear procedure to be followed in the event of a child being lost or a parents failing to collect a child.

The room at the rear of the hall has been made safe and is now used occasionally by the children.

A risk assessment has been carried out on the hand washing procedure for children, after art activities. Appropriate changes have been made, and the situation is monitored regularly.

What is being done well?

- The group has effective procedures in place for the recruitment of staff. This helps to ensure staff working with the children are suitable to do so.
- The group ensures the premises are safe and secure for children. The children practice emergency evacuation procedures to enable them to leave the premises safely.
- The staff use positive and consistent strategies to manage children's behaviour. They give praise for good behaviour and children respond well to guidance.
- The staff have very good relationships with the children. They spend a lot of time talking and playing with the children, helping them to learn.
- The group makes good use of the outdoor play area. The children get plenty of fresh air.
- The staff actively promote very good personal hygiene practices with the children. They are encouraged to wash their hands regularly.
- The pre-school have effective and positive procedures in place to offer good care to children with additional or special needs. The individual needs of the

children are taken into account when planning some activities.

- The group offers a warm and welcoming environment. Parents, carers and children are greeted appropriately. Children feel safe and secure.

What needs to be improved?

- the use of the available space
- the choices for children
- the recording of regular risk assessments
- the resources reflecting equal opportunities
- the written information for parents regarding their children's progress

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
6	Consider recording regular risk assessments.
3	Review and provide more opportunities for children to choose their own activities. Ensure there are appropriate opportunities for children to further develop their independence.
9	Expand the range of toys and resources that promote equality of opportunity.
13	Consider attending up to date child protection training.

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.