



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 959783

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/07/2004
Inspector Name Nicola Mary Eileen Matthews

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Abbot's Hall Out of School Club
Setting Address Abbot's Hall Primary School
Museum Room, Danescourt Avenue
Stowmarket
Suffolk
IP14 1QF

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Abbott Hall Out of School Club

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Abbott Hall Out of School Club
Address Museum Room
Danes Court Avenue
Stowmarket
Suffolk
IP14 1DL

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

Abbot's Hall Out of School Club opened approximately four years ago. It operates from the Abbot's Hall Museum Rooms, which adjoins the Abbot's Hall Primary School. The out of school club serves the pupils of Abbot's Hall School.

There are currently 25 children aged from 4 to 11 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special educational needs. There are no children currently attending who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 15:10 until 18:00.

There is one part-time and two full-time staff working with the children. All staff have recognised early years qualifications, to NVQ level 2 or 3. There is one member of staff currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Abbot's Hall Out of School Club, is providing satisfactory care for young children. The procedures are well known by the staff, which ensures the smooth running of the club. All the staff are qualified, which helps them understand the needs of children. The children are given a warm welcome and are provided with a nutritious snack when they arrive from school and on special occasions staff provide a treat. Most documentation is in place.

The building is safe and secure and the staff know the emergency procedures. Good hygiene practices are given high priority and children are reminded regularly to wash hands before eating and after toileting. The staff know the children well and cater for their individual needs. Children with special needs attend and the staff consult with the parents and other agencies so the child's individual needs can be met. Some staff have completed child protection training, which ensures children's welfare is maintained.

The staff manage the children's behaviour well, however positive behaviour strategies are not always used. Staff show sensitivity as to when to intervene in managing minor squabbles and this allows the children to manage their own behaviour in acceptable ways. The play opportunities offered to the children are age

appropriate. They can be creative in their use of resources and play co-operatively or alone. However, the constraints of the environment means that all children have to go outdoors where only physical play is made accessible.

The partnership with parents is good. The staff informally pass on information about the child and messages from school. The active committee are developing their role and fund raise to provide a better environment for the children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

n/a

What is being done well?

- The children socialise really well at snack time when they arrive in the club after school. The staff ensure children's birthdays and other important events in their lives are celebrated at this time.
- The children are learning about good hygiene practices through gentle reminders from the staff. This ensures they remain healthy.
- The active committee have improved a lot of the business side, which enables staff to spend more time with the children.
- The security of the premises takes high priority to ensure the children are safe.

What needs to be improved?

- the variety of play resources and activities available outdoors
- documentation; retention of the risk assessment records, the child protection policy to include contacting Ofsted when referring to allegations being made against a member of staff or volunteer, to obtain parents countersignature against medication administered
- implementation of the behaviour policy so that positive strategies are used when negotiating the boundaries with the children.

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
5	Provide a suitable range of play resources and activities, in order to meet the needs of all the children when playing outdoors.
7	Ensure the written record of medicines given to children is signed by parents.
13	Ensure the child protection policy outlines clearly that Ofsted will be contacted if any allegations of abuse are made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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.