



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 250022

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	19/06/2003
Inspector Name	Mary Pratty

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Berkswell Pre-school Group
Setting Address	Berkswell Reading Room Meriden Road, Berkswell Coventry West Midlands

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Alison Harries
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## 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

Berkswell Pre-School group is based in the Meeting Rooms, located in Berkswell village. The group operates within one large hall and an adjacent dining area, there is also access to a smaller room, kitchen and toilets.

Children attending are mainly from the local community. There are currently 25 children aged between two and a half and five years on roll. Children attend for a variety of afternoon sessions each week. The group has recently registered in order to receive Nursery Grant Funding. A wraparound service is provided for children attending the morning session at Berkswell Nursery school. The group supports children with special educational needs. Support is received from the Solihull Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

The group is open term times, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 11.30 -15.00.

Three staff are available to work on a daily basis, the manager is in the process of obtaining a childcare qualification.

### How good is the Day Care?

Berkswell Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. Staff ensure that parents and children receive a warm welcome on their arrival. Staff ratios are well maintained and a parents rota provides additional support. The group need to ensure that proposed staff changes do not impact on the operation of the group. There are a number of policies and procedures in place to inform staff of daily operational procedures and staff work well together as a team. Some documentation needs to be updated to ensure that parents and staff are fully informed. Staff generally pay good attention to health and safety and children are well supervised.

The premises are spacious and the daily routine is structured and flexible. A varied range of floor and table top experiences are provided. Some activities could be better presented to encourage children to keep supporting props in the designated areas, this will help maintain the play value and interest of specific activities.

Good attention has been given to developing planning and assessment, staff need to ensure that they develop an effective system of linking ongoing observations to planning. Children move with confidence between activities, they are given sufficient time to develop and explore in their play and learning. Focussed activities are linked

to specific areas of learning and take account of the Early Learning Goals.

Due to constraints on the use of the premises, the group have very limited opportunities to create displays of the children's work, provide posters, examples of writing and positive images of diversity. Staff need to consider how this can be addressed in order to provide a richer and more stimulating environment. Staff spend time talking and listening to the children and acknowledge good behaviour consistently. This encourages good relationships between staff and children and children with their peers.

Staff work in partnership with parents and provide daily verbal communication.

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

At the last inspection the group were asked to develop and implement an action plan indicating how the qualification and training requirement would be met. A satisfactory plan was devised. However whilst the current manager pursued a suitable qualification, the supervisor was unable to follow through her plans. The current manager has now decided to terminate her employment, this has resulted in a further action being set in relation to the group continuing in September with appropriately qualified staff.

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

- Staff talk with the children about their daily lives, they support children in moving on to school by arranging visits. For example as part of the settling in process for the local reception class, children due to move on from the group, are taken into school by pre-school staff, in order to participate in story time. This helps children to feel more secure and confident in coping with changes.
- Children are given a good variety of opportunities to play in small groups developing imaginative play and co-operation /negotiation skills.
- Children practice consistent hygiene routines in order to help them learn about good hygiene practice.
- Snacks are nutritious and healthy and staff take account of individual dietary needs. Children are provided with a choice of fruit and drinks including water.
- Good attention is given to developing social skills. Staff sit with children at snack and lunch time. Good manners are encouraged and staff act as positive role models. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged with praise offered for effort and achievement.
- Partnership with parents is well developed, parents are actively encouraged to help within the group and guidance has been developed to ensure that they are aware of their role.

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

- staffing with regard to meeting the training and qualification requirement;
- assessment of children's progress;
- safety with regard to children gaining access to the kitchen;
- use of space and presentation of activities;
- the equal opportunities policy and the provision of opportunities for children to learn about diversity;
- staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues;
- documentation with regard to: accident recording, complaints procedure and special needs policy.

### 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 an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met;	08/08/2003
4	make the kitchen inaccessible to the children.	19/06/2003

#### The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
3	ensure that observation and assessment is used to plan for the next steps of individual children's play, learning and development. Use plans to identify how activities can be extended where necessary;
4	consider how to improve the environment with regard to the use of space when setting out activities and opportunities to provide child orientated displays;
9	ensure that the equal opportunities policy is consistent with current legislation and guidance and provide a greater variety of opportunities for

	children to learn about diversity;
13	develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues;
14	ensure that documentation is improved with regard to recording the time accidents occur, providing details of how to contact Ofsted as the regulator, within the complaints procedure, update the Special Needs policy to have regard for the revised code of practice (2002). Ensure that information for parents regarding staff qualifications is accurate.

## **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.*