



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 315416

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	07/01/2004
Inspector Name	Patricia Ann Sang

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Crank Nursery Ltd
Setting Address	Crank Hill Crank St Helens Merseyside WA11 7SD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Crank Nursery Ltd 2913840 1039121
------	-----------------------------------

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Crank Nursery Ltd
Address	Crank Hill Crank St. Helens Merseyside WA11 7SD

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

Crank Nursery has been registered to provide day care for twelve years. The nursery is run by Crank Nursery Ltd which has charitable status.

The nursery is located in Crank, a semi-rural area of St Helens, it is registered to provide care for a maximum of 84 children under five years who are cared for by a team of twenty two staff most of whom hold a relevant child care qualification. Those not qualified are working towards a childcare qualification.

There are currently 72 children on roll. This includes eleven funded 3 year olds and three funded 4 year olds. This setting receive regular support from St. Helens Early Years Child Care Partnership.

The group opens from Monday to Friday from 08.00 to 18.00 all year round except for public holidays and a weeks closure over Christmas.

The nursery is used by the wider community and was originally used as a school, parts of which date back to the 1800's.

Children are looked after in four base areas with a large hall for all to use in rotation for play with larger apparatus. Children also have access to an enclosed outdoor area and a community field. There are no particular teaching methods employed. .

How good is the Day Care?

Crank Nursery Ltd provides good quality care for children. Most of the staff hold a relevant childcare qualification and have worked together to provide consistency in caring for children.

Children are looked after in their peer group with opportunities to visit other groups for short periods. A key worker system is established ensuring that children are given due attention.

Equipment in place supports all children's needs, much thought has gone into providing a stimulating environment for babies and young children.

Further thought needs to be given to the staff induction so that they are fully aware of child protection procedures and what to do should a child not be collected.

Most aspects of health and safety are dealt with satisfactorily. Children have clear routines for washing of hands although some attention is required to ensure that children's play equipment is cleaned at regular intervals. Children's meals are varied and nutritious, children experience new tastes and textures through cultural celebrations.

Staff work together in planning and implementing activities for children. The quality of play materials is good, children move from one activity to another with ease and are supported well in small groups. Staff interact appropriately with children prompting questions and encouraging children to respect each other. The policy on behaviour management does not set out the methods used, which need to be made clear, to ensure consistency with all staff. Resources that children use show the diversity within communities and children learn about the world around them.

Staff work well with children who need extra support. They work closely with parents to provide consistent care and make sure that there is a good exchange of information. A complaints procedure is established but requires updating. Parents are kept informed about the nursery through monthly newsletters, a notice board and an annual parents evening.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, it was agreed that parents acknowledge the medication entry, the cook update her knowledge of food hygiene, a procedure for outings is established, a key worker system is set up, the behaviour management policy is reviewed and warm water is provided in children's hand wash basins.

Parents now sign the medication book to show they are satisfied with the medication administered, the cook has accessed the foundation training in food hygiene and received the certificate. A written procedure for outings is in place and ensures appropriate supervision of children, all staff are now fully vetted with clearances kept on file, a key worker system is established so that children are given due attention and a degree of consistency in their care.

The behaviour management policy has been reviewed to remove methods used that may be humiliating to children. Warm water is now provided in the children's wash basins and they are able to clean themselves properly after messy play or using the toilet.

What is being done well?

- Most of the staff group trained in first aid and are qualified in childcare or are working toward a qualification. There is lots of space for children to engage in activities with opportunities to visit other groups. Staff work with small numbers giving much individual attention to children, babies have stimulating surroundings and are placed so that they can reach toys and see adults around them.
- A large hall area provides climbing apparatus where children can play in safety when the weather is not good outdoors.

- All parents are given a policy pack to use for continued reference. An annual parents evening opens the nursery up to the extended family and provides an opportunity to talk to staff at leisure and discuss children's progress.
- Meals are varied with new foods introduced through cultural celebrations that welcome an input from parents. Resources that reflect diversity are used so that children learn about the world around them. Staff work closely with parents and other agencies where children need extra input.
- Staff with lead responsibility for specific areas of care have accessed further training or have arranged to access a relevant course.
- Children enjoy a good selection of play materials many of which are rotated throughout the nursery to ensure that children do not become bored.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for uncollected children so that there are clear guidelines of what to do should a parent fail to collect a child
- the procedure for complaints so that parents know where to take a complaint
- the arrangements for staff induction to include child protection in the first week of employment
- the arrangements for sick children so that parents are clear about exclusion periods
- the arrangements for play materials so that they are cleaned at regular intervals
- the behaviour management policy to show the methods used to manage behaviour
- the child protection procedures to include procedures should an allegation be made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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
2	Review the procedure for uncollected children to show the procedures to be followed should an emergency contact person not be available.
2	Review the staff induction to include child protection in the first week of employment.
6	Establish a rota for the cleaning of play materials in the pre school room.
7	Review and update the policy for sick children to make clear when children are to be excluded.
11	Review and update the written procedures to include the methods used to manage children's behaviour.
12	Review and update the complaints procedure to include the address and telephone number of the regulator.
13	Review and update the written statement to include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member 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.