



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY279472

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/12/2004
Inspector Name Lynn Denise Smith

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Rainbow Little Waltham
Setting Address Tufnell Hall
The Street Little Waltham
Chelmsford
Essex
CM3 3NY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Rainbow Little Waltham Limited

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Rainbow Little Waltham Limited
Address 40 Chelmer Avenue
Little Waltham
Chelmsford
Essex
CM3 3PB

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

Rainbow Montessori is a privately owned nursery. It opened in 2004 and operates from a large hall within a sports and social club in a village on the outskirts of Chelmsford. A maximum of 20 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 09:00 to 15:30 during school term time only. The children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 23 children aged from 2 to under 5 years on roll. of these 13 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local and surrounding areas. The nursery is able to support children with special needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 5 staff. All of the staff hold an appropriate early years qualification. One member of staff is working towards a level 3 qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Rainbow Montessori provides good quality care for children.

This is the nursery's first inspection since registration. The owner and staff are working well together to provide a quality service for families using the facility. Staff make good use of the space within the large hall to provide different sections for each area of learning. There is a good selection of toys and play equipment available to the children, which provides opportunities for all aspects of play and learning. Our multi-cultural society is reflected in dolls, puzzles, books and puppets; a number of festivals are celebrated with the children. Clear and effective records and policies are in place however the procedure for lost or uncollected children is inadequate.

Staff are committed to providing a safe and caring environment. A number of safety procedures are in place and children are encouraged to develop an awareness of good hygiene practices. Healthy and varied snacks are available for the children each day. Drinking water is not available to the children at all times. Staff follow the area child protection procedures and keep up to date with new guidance.

Alongside the traditional Montessori activities which are on offer throughout the session, children are also provided with a good range of free play opportunities such as dressing up, role play, sand and painting. Professionals visit the facility each

afternoon providing more structured learning in French, Drama, Art and Jo-jingles. Swimming is offered at a local pool. The outdoor area could be used more frequently to enhance the children's learning opportunities. The relaxed atmosphere encourages good, co-operative behaviour amongst the staff and children.

Parents are well informed about their child's day and the setting in general; good opportunities are available for parents to discuss their child's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- An effective operational plan has been devised which clearly details the day to day running of the setting.
- Children are provided with a good range of activities which cover all aspects of learning; staff ensure children have a selection of both free and structured play.
- There is a good range of toys and equipment available which reflects equal opportunities; a number of festivals are celebrated throughout the year.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunity for children to access drinking water throughout the session:
- the information contained within the lost or uncollected child policy.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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	Develop and implement a procedure for lost or uncollected children.
8	Consider ways of providing drinking water for the children throughout the session.

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.