



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY262887

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 06/04/2004
Inspector Name Michele Anne Villiers

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Spring Park
Setting Address Muirhead Avenue East
Liverpool
Merseyside
L11 1ER

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Spring Park

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Spring Park
Address Muirhead Avenue East
Liverpool
Merseyside
L11 1ER

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

Spring Park Nursery opened in July 2003 and is privately run. It operates from a purpose built and architecturally designed building which is on two levels, with disabled access. There are three designated playrooms and an outside garden. The nursery is situated in the suburbs of the City of Liverpool, in a residential area, close to shops, schools and public transport.

There are 95 children on roll. This includes funded three and four year olds. The nursery is open all year round, Monday to Friday, from 08:00 to 18:00. The nursery supports children with special needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

There are 13 full-time staff and two part-time staff. Most of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 3 or equivalent. The manager is qualified and has several years experience at managerial level. There is an appointed deputy and third-in-charge. The nursery receives support from a teacher from the EYDCP.

How good is the Day Care?

Spring Park Nursery provides good care for children. Staff are qualified in childcare and there is a commitment from all workers to access short courses whenever possible. The premises are secure and safe and there is a welcoming environment for children and parents. The children's artwork is displayed throughout and information for the parents is available at the entrance. The required written policies and procedures, for the efficient management of the provision, are in place and frequently reviewed.

Health and safety is promoted within the nursery. Fire drills are practised and recorded and staff supervise the children at all times. Risk assessment is carried out daily, and a formalised procedure is being developed, to identify any potential hazards. Good hygiene is promoted. The staff wear protective clothing when changing nappies and children learn about personal hygiene through daily activities. Most staff hold a first aid certificate and the administration of medication and children's accidents are recorded and the information is shared with parents.

The staff provide a range of play opportunities and their enthusiastic approach and good support given during activities, motivates the children's learning and promotes their development. Children can independently access resources from low level

shelves and well-labelled storage boxes. There are some multi-cultural toys and resources reflecting positive images. These need to be increased. The children's behaviour is managed well, in a positive environment. The staff use praise and encouragement to foster the children's self-esteem and reinforce good behaviour. There is a key-worker system in place, where staff are responsible for a small group of children, ensuring consistency and continuity of care.

Information is shared with parents, through daily discussion and regular newsletters. Written policies and procedures are explained during registration. These need to be made available at all times.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable. This is the first inspection.

What is being done well?

- The manager's commitment and staff's enthusiasm creates a positive environment for the children. Staff work well together and there is an identified key-worker responsible for small groups of children.
- All staff are qualified in childcare and most to NVQ level 3 or equivalent. All are actively encouraged to access further training and to attend short courses. Regular staff appraisal and staff meetings identify training needs and staff development.
- The premises are bright, clean and well maintained. Children's artwork is attractively displayed throughout and information for the parents is available at the entrance. Children can freely access toys and resources from low-level shelves and labelled boxes.
- The children's behaviour is managed well. Children are happy and interested in their play. They relate well to each other and to adults. They learn to share and take turns and respond to simple instructions. Staff reinforce the children's good behaviour through praise and encouragement and use certificates and stickers as rewards.
- There is a good range of toys and resources and staff plan activities that promote the children's development and learning. Assessment sheets are used to monitor the children's progress and identify their individual needs. Older children receive additional learning from a French teacher each week.

What needs to be improved?

- the management of the children's behaviour to have an identified staff member
- the complaints procedure to be made available to parents at all times
- the child protection policy to include the procedure to follow in the event of any allegations of abuse being made against a member of staff, student or

volunteer.

- the resources reflecting positive images of race, culture, gender and disability to be increased.

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
9	Increase the number of resources and images that reflect disability, culture, race and gender.
11	Nominate a staff member to be responsible for overseeing the management of the children's behaviour.
12	Ensure that all parents are fully aware of the complaints procedure.
13	Include, in the written child protection policy, the procedure to follow should any allegations be made against a member of staff, student 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.