



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY254245

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 03/03/2004
Inspector Name Jane Plested

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Hyde Heath Community Pre-School
Setting Address Hyde Heath Infant School
Weedon hill, Hyde Heath
Amersham
Buckinghamshire
HP6 5RW

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Hyde Heath Community Pre-School Group
1020591

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Hyde Heath Community Pre-School Group
Address Hyde Heath Infant School
Weedon Hill, Hyde Heath
Amersham
Buckinghamshire
HP6 5RW

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

Hyde Heath Pre-school has been open for over 20 years. It operates from the Infant School in the village of Hyde Heath. The premises comprise a single classroom and adjacent toilet block. There is an enclosed outside area for use by the group and they also have access to the school playground. Both areas are secure.

There are currently 28 children on the roll. This includes 18 funded 3-year-olds and 7 funded 4-year-olds. The setting is currently not supporting any children who speak English as an additional language or who have designated special needs.

The pre-school opens five days a week during school term time. The setting is open from 09:15 until 11:45. The children attend for a variety of sessions.

There are five staff who work with the children. The leader has a BA (Hons) in Professional Studies in Childcare qualification and another staff member holds an early years qualification to level two. A further two staff are working towards relevant early years qualifications at level two.

The pre-school is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PSLA). The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Hyde Heath Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. The committee do not always notify Ofsted of relevant changes. There are some clear policies and procedures in place. However, several are insufficiently detailed and a procedure for the management of a lost or uncollected child is not in place. Staff are not familiar with the setting's policies and procedures. The group provides a warm and welcoming environment where children can play and enjoy themselves and parents feel at ease. Children have access to the ample toys and equipment.

Staff have an understanding of safety issues; most hazards have been identified and children's security is a priority. They are effective in promoting the children's good health. The pre-school encourages healthy eating through the snacks and drinks provided. Procedures for sharing information about children's needs are good. Staff have a limited understanding of the setting's role in the protection of children.

Staff work well together and are able to develop children's learning effectively, on an

individual basis and in whole group activities. They plan their daily activities and have a very clear routine that is known by the children and staff. Children are confident in their relationships with adults and are well occupied and happy. Children's contributions are valued. Staff are confident and enthusiastic in their work. Children respond well to the clear guidance and praise given by staff.

The setting has some effective systems for developing good partnerships with parents, who are very happy with the care provided. They are given detailed information about the setting and feel well informed about what is going on and their children's progress. Records and consents are kept but some lack the necessary detail. Staff do not record children promptly into the register or the occasions when they arrive with pre-existing injuries.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Children are offered a varied range of activities that are enjoyed by the children and used well by staff to help them learn. They are encouraged to contribute and help in circle times. Staff encourage the children to think about concepts such as fast and slow and to recall past events. They work with the children enthusiastically and this is evident in the activities and when reading stories.
- Children are well behaved and are confident. Staff praise children's achievements freely, effectively developing their self esteem and ensuring they feel valued. Children are encouraged to value the contributions of others, for example by clapping other group's musical activities.
- Staff have developed very good relationships with the parents, who are pleased with the service provided. The pre-school keep the parents well informed about the setting via a detailed notice board, a comprehensive prospectus and through the policies, that are accessible for parents. Comments from parents via the parent questionnaire or from those spoken to, value the setting highly, consider staff very friendly and find that concerns are dealt with promptly. They feel well informed about their child's progress and know their key worker.

What needs to be improved?

- policies and procedures so that there are clear guidelines to follow in the event of a parent failing to collect a child or if a child goes missing
- understanding the National Standards, so that Ofsted is notified of changes to the premises
- risk assessments and safety, so that hot drinks do not pose a danger to children

- staff's understanding of child protection, so that they are fully familiar with the signs that cause concern and know where to access information and procedures to support them in this work
- records and recording procedures, so that the register is taken promptly and shows clear detail on children's attendance if this is outside the normal session times, and a record of pre-existing injuries is kept
- policies and procedures, so that the child protection policy shows more fully the reporting procedures to be followed, the equal opportunities policy is updated, and staff are familiar with all of the setting's policies and procedures.

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 procedures to be followed for lost and uncollected children.	05/04/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
4	Make sure that Ofsted is notified of changes to the premises.
6	Ensure that hot drinks do not pose a danger to children.
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.
14	Make sure that all records relating to day care activities are kept and contain sufficient detail, and ensure the revised policies and procedures are known to all staff.

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.