



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY285382

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 14/03/2005
Inspector Name Linda Cook

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Queens Kindergarten
Setting Address Queen Ethelburgas College
Thorpe Green Lane, Thorpe Underwood
York
North Yorkshire
YO26 9SS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Queens Kindergarten 2573843

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Queens Kindergarten
Address Queen Ethelburgas College
Thorpe Green Lane, Thorpe Underwood
York
North Yorkshire
YO26 9SS

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

Queen's Kindergarten was registered in 2004 and is part of Queen Ethelburgas College an independent school in the village of Thorpe Underwood. The Kindergarten children are cared for in a self contained unit consisting of three main playrooms, plus a kitchen area, toilet facilities, office and storage facilities. The children have access to the grounds of the school and a fenced outdoor play area.

They are registered to care for 30 children from birth to 3 years and there are 27 children on role at present. The facility is open Monday to Friday from 07:45 to 18:15 all year apart from Bank Holidays. They welcome children with special needs, although there are no children attending at this point in time who have special needs and there are no children with English as an additional language. Children attend from a wide catchment area.

There are four permanent members of staff who work with the children, all have a Level 3 childcare qualification. Agency staff are employed to cover busy sessions and staff absences.

The Kindergarten is implementing the Birth to Three framework.

How good is the Day Care?

Queen's Kindergarten provides good quality care for children. A very warm, welcoming and child orientated environment is provided where children feel secure, happy and confident. A positive approach to behaviour management successfully encourages good behaviour, the children respond well to the staffs clear guidance and praise. Staff work effectively as a team and carry out their roles and responsibilities well. Regular staff meetings and planning sessions develop their good practice.

There is a high standard of health and safety on site. Regular risk assessments and daily checks ensure areas are safe and suitable with all appropriate safety equipment in place. The premises are clean and well maintained and staff promote good hygiene practices overall, however further steps need to be taken to ensure the spread of infection is minimised. Healthy and nutritious meals are prepared and cooked on site and special dietary needs are catered for.

Staff plan and provide a stimulating and interesting curriculum based on themes and

topics. All children enjoy the range of creative and play opportunities, which enable them to build on what they know and can do. Rooms are well resourced and equipment organised effectively to offer free choice and promote independence. Children benefit from regular outdoor play in an area that has a good range of equipment to promote physical development and an understanding of nature.

There are very good relationships with the parents. Effective systems are in place to keep them informed of their children's progress and achievements. Parents are made aware of and have access to all the nurseries policies and procedures.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable first inspection since registration.

What is being done well?

- The staff team have developed good working relationships and show commitment to developing their practice through staff meetings, planning sessions and external training. They are currently working towards implementing the Birth to Three Matters framework and have places booked on relevant training courses.
- The environment is very welcoming and bright due to the attractive displays and wall murals in all areas. Children's work is valued and displayed effectively to enhance the setting and create an interesting and stimulating environment.
- The outdoor area provides very good opportunities for children to learn about nature and the environment. They enjoy regular walks in the extensive grounds to see the horses and feed the ducks. They also enjoy the dedicated play area which is well equipped and has a safe surface.
- Excellent relationships are established with the children, staff know the children well and there is positive and sustained interaction in all areas. Children settle easily and soon become familiar with the daily routine. All children are settled and show a positive attitude to learning and as a result they are making good progress in their development and behave well.
- Partnership with parents is strong. They are kept well informed through notices displayed, newsletters and the exchange of information each day. Parents are provided with a point of contact through the key worker system. The regular exchange of information ensures the children's needs are recognised and met effectively. .

What needs to be improved?

- Documentation; to ensure the child protection policy is extended to include the procedure to be followed if allegations are made against staff
- hygiene; to ensure children are provided with individual means of drying their hands at all times, to minimise the spread of infection.

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 on.

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
13	Ensure the child protection policy is extended to include the procedures to be followed if allegations are made against a member of staff.
7	Ensure children are provided with individual means of drying their hands at all times.

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.