



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY278887

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/02/2005
Inspector Name Hilary, Jane Purvis

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Haltwhistle Little Star
Setting Address Woodhead Lane
Haltwhistle
Northumberland
NE49 9DP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Haltwhistle Little-Star Pre-School 04861822 1100529

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Haltwhistle Little-Star Pre-School
Address 3 Moorland Avenue
Haltwhistle
Northumberland
NE49 9ES

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

Haltwhistle Little-Star Pre-School has been registered since 2004. It operates from a purpose built nursery in the centre of Haltwhistle. It is open Monday to Friday 8:00 until 18:00 all year. It is registered to care for a maximum of 50 children aged 0 to 8 years, there are currently 62 children on roll attending for various sessions. There are three childcare rooms with appropriate toilet and baby change facilities. Externally there is a fully enclosed outdoor garden with covered play area.

There are six members of staff and a manager who all hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Haltwhistle Little Star Pre school provides good quality care for children. They offer a warm and welcoming environment where children are happy and feel secure through good adult support.

Space and resources are very well organised. Good attention is given at most times throughout the day to meeting children's individual needs.

Health and safety issues are well met and children are encouraged to follow good hygiene practices. The group have a sound knowledge of child protection procedures.

The group is very well resourced giving children access to a wide range of toys and equipment which provide a balanced range of activities promoting children's individual development and learning in all areas.

Children are happy, settled and fully occupied in their play. Interaction between staff members and the children is warm and caring. Children's behaviour is managed in an appropriate and consistent manner.

Positive relationships with parents have been developed. The group actively promotes the sharing of information and keeps parents informed of their child's development on a daily basis both verbally and within their individual files, which parents have full access to.

The staff have undertaken a wide variety of relevant training ensuring they remain fully aware of current procedures and childcare strategies.

Most records are kept in an organised manner, including records of attendance. Confidentiality is respected and fully maintained.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- There is a strong commitment to staff development through the ongoing availability of relevant childcare orientated training.
- Staff have developed warm and caring relationships with the children there is constant positive interaction and support.
- Child safety is promoted, with staff being aware of hazards and putting place safe practices and precautions to reduce the risk to the children.
- Meals provided are healthy and nutritious with children's individual preferences being acknowledged.
- Behaviour is managed in a kind and calm manner with appropriate methods used which reflect children's age and understanding.
- The relationship with parents has been developed into a friendly and professional one, they are kept fully informed of the nurseries activities and their child's development through constant updates both written and verbal.

What needs to be improved?

- the policy document outlining the procedure to be followed in the event of a child becoming lost
- the routine in place during the lunch time session.
- the method of retaining records of medication administered securely.

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	Ensure that there is a policy in place outlining the procedure to be followed in the case of a child becoming lost.
3	Ensure that the routine during lunch time is appropriate to meet the needs of all the children cared for.
7	Ensure that all records of medication administered is retained in a secure manner.

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.