



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 118584

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	13/10/2004
Inspector Name	Deborah Ann Benn

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Topsy Turvy Pre-School
Setting Address	Brooks Hall Harwood Avenue Hornchurch Essex RM11 2NY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The partnership of The Partners of Topsy Turvy Pre-School
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Partners of Topsy Turvy Pre-School
Address	Brooks Hall Harwood Avenue Hornchurch Essex RM11 2NY

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

Topsy Turvy Pre-School opened in 1996. It operates from a scout hall in Ardleigh Green close to Hornchurch shops and local resources. The pre-school has sole use of the hall whilst in session. There is an enclosed outside play area adjacent to the hall.

The provider of daycare is the partnership of Karen Mason and Emmie Kent.

There are currently 72 children from two years six months to four years on roll. This includes 25 funded three-year-olds, and 22 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The pre-school currently supports children with special educational needs and those learning English as an additional language.

The Pre-school is open Monday to Friday 09:15 to 11:45 and 12:30 to 15:00 term time only.

There are ten members of staff in total working with the children, all of whom work part time. Over half the staff hold early years qualifications to NVQ (National Vocational Qualification) level 2 or 3. The pre-school receives support from the area Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and a teacher through the Havering Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Topsy Turvy Pre-school provides good quality care for children.

The premises are clean, well maintained, bright and welcoming. There is ample room for children to rest and play with clearly defined areas for different types of activities. Equipment is of good quality, easily accessible and storage is well organised. The required documentation is appropriately kept and maintained on a daily basis and there are effective systems in place to ensure that Ofsted are informed of staff changes and appropriate checks carried out.

There is a high standard of hygiene and safety maintained throughout the premises and within the practices of the provision. A positive attitude toward diversity is reflected in activities and resources; children have opportunity to learn about different faiths and cultures through practical and interesting projects. The whole staff team have a clear understanding of their responsibility to protect children and knowledge of the appropriate procedures to be followed. Children are provided with

a mid-session snack. However, although there is occasional fruit tasting, daily snacks offer little choice and nutrition.

Children have access to a wide range of age appropriate activities from which they can choose freely. There is generally an appropriate balance between adult directed craft activities and the opportunity for children to express themselves creatively and make choices. Children are encouraged to respect each other and good behaviour is acknowledged and praised by staff who are good role models and speak to the children and each other with respect.

Parents are very happy with the care provided. They are provided with written information about the setting and are invited to an informal day to meet staff before their child commences at the group. An effective key worker system is in place and parents are kept well informed of their child's development and made welcome in the setting.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the providers agreed to make sure that appropriate checks were carried out on all staff, to update the complaints procedure and to make an action plan as to how the qualifications of the persons in charge would be updated.

All actions have been successfully addressed but not yet fully achieved. The correct forms have been completed to inform Ofsted of staff changes and the required checks have been carried out. The complaints procedure has been updated to include the contact address and telephone number for Ofsted. The action plan submitted to Ofsted regarding updating the providers' qualifications was appropriate but the accreditation of prior learning course they had hoped to attend was cancelled. Therefore they will be commencing NVQ level 3 training in October 2004.

What is being done well?

- The operational plan works well. Effective induction, clear communication processes and regular team meetings have helped to build a strong team. There is a commitment to staff development, all staff are encouraged to undertake training and are enabled to attend courses and workshops. Staff are confident with the daily routines and support each other well providing a consistent and secure environment for children.
- The staff team are warm and friendly, parents are made to feel welcome and find staff approachable. An effective key worker system helps staff form positive relationships with the children and get to know them well, the children are confident to approach staff.
- Children's safety is given the highest priority. Risk assessments have been formulated and daily safety checks are carried out. High adult:child ratios and clear staff deployment ensures that children are well supervised at all times. Effective systems are in place for the safe arrival and collection of children.
- There is a very good selection of books which are age appropriate, of good quality and reflect diversity; they are attractively presented and accessible to

children at all times. Good use is made of the local library to complement the group's own resources and support particular topics.

- Staff consistently manage children's behaviour in a positive manner. Regular praise and encouragement is used by all staff helping the children to grow in confidence and self esteem. Staff are good role models speaking to the children with respect at all times, gently re-enforcing good manners and social skills.

What needs to be improved?

- the nutritional value and variety of snacks provided

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
8	Consider how a more varied and nutritious snack could be provided which better promotes healthy eating.
9	Ensure that planning of activities and resources takes into account children's individual needs.

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.