



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 119471

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	22/09/2004
Inspector Name	Jenny Howell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Daisy Chain Playgroup
Setting Address	600 Southchurch Road Southend-on-Sea Essex SS1 2PT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Daisy Chain Playgroup 290547
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Daisy Chain Playgroup
Address	600 Southchurch Road Southend-on-Sea Essex SS1 2PT

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

Daisy Chain Pre School opened in 1991. It operates from two rooms within The Plaza Centre, which is managed by the Southend Christian Fellowship. The premises are situated in Southchurch on the outskirts of Southend and are near to schools, parks and shops. The setting serves all areas of Southend.

The pre-school is registered to provide places for twenty five children aged between two and five years. There are currently twenty five children on roll. This includes 7 funded 3 year olds and 1 funded 4 year old. Children attend a variety of sessions.

The pre school opens from Monday to Thursday during school term times. Sessions are from 9:15 until 12:15 Monday and Tuesdays and

9:15 to 12:00 Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Six staff and four occasional staff work with the children. Four have Early Years qualifications. The setting receives support from the Early Years Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Daisy Chain Pre School provides satisfactory care for children.

Staff are aware of daily routines and their responsibilities. They hold appropriate qualifications and have a continuing commitment to training. Space and resources are organised well so that children are busy and interested in their play. Staff display photographs of children and examples of their work to make the premises welcoming to children and parents. Documentation is well organised, although some policies and procedures need to be updated.

Children's welfare and safety is carefully considered. Staff undertake risk assessments of the premises and of individual activities, these are reviewed on a regular basis. Good hygiene routines are shared with the children and healthy snacks are provided with regard to allergies, likes and dislikes. The staff show high levels of care and concern towards children and work hard to meet their individual needs.

A balance of independent and structured play is provided through the range of activities planned for each day. Staff extend opportunities for learning by interacting

effectively with children. Children respond well to praise and encouragement, resulting in a calm and purposeful atmosphere. Support is provided for children with special needs and children have the opportunity to learn about diversity and difference.

Staff develop good relationships with parents who are welcomed into the pre school. Verbal feedback is given at the end of a session and parents are free to view children's work and files.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the registered provider was asked to produce an action plan detailing how the person in charge and deputy will achieve qualifications and training appropriate to the post; ensure that the nominated person is vetted (this refers to the chairperson); ensure that staff working with children are vetted (this refers to health/CRB checks); ensure that the premises and outside play area are secure and children are not able to leave them unsupervised (this refers to play area fence) and to ensure that all hazards to children on the premises, both inside and out are minimised (this refers to storage of cleaning materials).

The person in charge now holds a level 3 qualification and other staff meet minimum requirements for qualifications and training. This ensures that staff have relevant knowledge and understanding of current child care practices.

The nominated person has been vetted although no evidence of this has been retained.

Staff working with children have been vetted and evidence of this has been retained on file. This ensures that people working with children are suitable to do so.

The outside play area has been made secure ensuring that children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised.

Locks have been fitted to cupboards containing hazardous materials ensuring that children are unable to access them.

What is being done well?

- The level of detail included in the operational plan and written routines ensures that staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
- A good balance of planned and independent activities encourages children to develop across all areas of learning.
- Effective staff interaction, encouragement and praise provides support and challenge for children as well as reinforcing positive behaviour.
- A warm and welcoming atmosphere is created for parents and children. Displays and photographs help children feel settled. The calm, purposeful atmosphere helps children to benefit fully from the activities provided.

- A wide range of toys and equipment are provided to support play and learning across a variety of areas. Children are able to access toys for themselves allowing them to become independent learners.
- Thorough risk assessments and regular reviews of safety ensure that children are safe at all times when playing inside and outside.
- The variety of fruit and vegetables provided during snack time encourages children to try new foods and eat healthily.
- A wide range of equal opportunities resources and activities promote positive images of difference and diversity.
- All children are valued and included. Different backgrounds are recognised and celebrated. Activities, resources and routines are adapted to ensure that children with special needs are effectively included.

What needs to be improved?

- information to parents regarding their child's development
- written parental permission for a qualified member of staff to administer first aid
- clarity of procedure to be followed by staff in the event of a child becoming lost

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

Std	Recommendation
2	Devise a clear policy, understood by all staff, regarding the procedure to be followed in the event of a child becoming lost.
7	Request written permission from parents for trained staff to administer first aid.

12	Provide opportunities for parents to receive regular information on their children's progress.
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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.