



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 220088

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/07/2003
Inspector Name Maria Cooper

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Alphabet Day Nursery (Kingsthorpe)
Setting Address Kingswell Rd
Kingsthorpe Village
Northampton
Northamptonshire
NN2 6QB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Angela Marcella Evans

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

Alphabet Day Nursery opened in 1994 in a single storey building in the old village area of Kingsthorpe on the outskirts of Northampton. The facility is made up of three group rooms. There is a small secure outside play area. The registration is for 32 children under five years. There are currently 55 children on roll, who attend for a variety of sessions. This includes 11 funded four-year-olds. There are no children attending currently with special needs and the group does not currently support any children who speak English as an additional language.

The Day Nursery opens five days a week, all year round, except for bank holidays. They are open from 7:45am to 18:00pm.

Eleven staff work directly with the children and all have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Alphabet Day Nursery (Kingsthorpe) provides good quality care for children. All staff have an appropriate childcare qualification. Children are cared for in a welcoming and mostly well organised setting. The equipment and toys are well maintained, clean and of good quality.

Staff plan activities well, which allows the children to develop their curiosity, use their imagination and develop social skills. Children as a result are able to interact confidently with each other and clearly enjoy their time at the setting. Good quality policies and procedures are in place for most aspects of care and help to keep children safe, and promote good hygiene and health routines for both children and staff. However, more formal risk assessments have yet to be conducted. Staff consistently implement an effective behaviour management policy, resulting in children being well behaved.

The nursery has good relationships with parents. Excellent systems are in place for discussion with parents about their children and staff record achievements and routines daily. Good information is given to prospective parents and detailed records are kept to allow the setting to care for the children according to parental wishes.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were no requirements raised at the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- Staff spend time with the children. They encourage them to play with a variety of activities which promotes all areas of learning in a supportive environment. As a result children are confident, interested and enjoy their time at the nursery.
- Children are kept safe as a result of good quality written policies with particular regard to the arrival and collection of children.
- Staff effectively implement a well written behaviour management policy. As a result children are aware of what is expected of them and are well behaved.
- The nursery obtains all the necessary information from parents to allow the children to be cared for according to parental wishes.
- Good quality records, policies and procedures are implemented to enable the nursery to run in an organised manner.

What needs to be improved?

- the organisation: to ensure quiet areas are provided to enable individual sleep patterns to be facilitated.
- safety: with regard to a risk assessment on the premises and to ensure this is reviewed if there is a significant change or if the registered person suspects that it is no longer valid.
- documentation: to ensure that the child protection procedure for the nursery complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures.

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
4	ensure provision is made for children to sleep safely without disturbance and appropriate furniture is provided.
6	conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying action to be taken to minimize identified risks and ensure this is reviewed if there is a significant change or if the registered person suspects that it is no longer valid.
13	ensure that the child protection procedure for the nursery complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures.

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.