



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 135008

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/07/2003
Inspector Name Ann Elizabeth Hector

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Abbots Manor Community Childcare Centre
Setting Address The Portacabin
Sutherland Street
London
SW1V 4JP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Westminster Children's Society 2228978 299686

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Westminster Children's Society
Address 121 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4LX

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

Abbots Manor Community Childcare Centre opened in 1997.

It is one of eleven settings managed by Westminster Children's Society, a voluntary organisation and operates from portacabins on an inner city housing estate. The nursery has access to one room divided into curriculum areas and one other room for art and craft activities. There is access to a kitchen area, toilets, office and an enclosed outdoor play area with safety surface. The setting is easily accessible by public transport

The nursery is registered to provide 25 places for children aged two to five years old and offers places for up to 14 funded three and four year olds. The nursery supports children with special needs and children who have English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round from 8.30 am to 5.30pm, and sessions operate from 9:15am to 12.15pm and 1.00pm to 4.00 pm.

Four full-time staff work with the children (a fifth is about to be appointed), with over fifty percent of the staff holding childcare qualifications. The nursery receives support from the Early Years Partnership Advisory Teacher to develop the Foundation Stage of the curriculum for the funded 3 & 4 year olds.

How good is the Day Care?

The Abbots Manor Community Childcare Centre provides good care for children.

The Centre is well organised and operates effective systems which are supported by comprehensive organisational policies and procedures. There are good methods of recording information, eg attendance, medication, accidents.etc, which are stored for more than the required 2 years. Space is set out to allow children to move easily between activities and the learning areas. A broad range of Pre-School resources is available indoors, while the outdoor area offers a good selection of age-appropriate toys and equipment

Children's health and welfare are given high priority: detailed records are kept on the administration of medication and accidents; sick children are made safe and comfortable until their parents arrive. The outdoor area is securely fenced. The procedure for outings clearly sets out staff responsibilities to ensure children's

safety..

There is a good planning system. Staff organise learning opportunities which encourage children to be creative and use their imaginations. The Portacabins are organised into learning areas to match the learning goals of the curriculum, to the benefit of all the children attending. Key workers observe children and record their progress.

The partnership with parents is good, the staff team are planning to expand this to encourage more parents to be involved.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Staff have attended training in working in partnership with parents and are now involved in collecting parents views about what can be changed to better meet their needs.

What is being done well?

- Strong leadership demonstrated by Manager who has sound knowledge of National Standards and ensures the Provision works to them.
- (Std 1)
- Good policies and procedures in place to recruit and check staff for suitability. Effective deployment of staff to meet the needs of the children; staff were available to them without being intrusive.
- (Std 2)
- Comprehensive development plan for 2002-3 targeting most areas for review, including re-labelling files, developing partnership with parents, refurbishing the outdoor area, SEN record keeping and operational and curriculum planning.
- (Std 2)
- Good planning and use of space to offer developmental and learning opportunities to children; the learning areas are well-used by all the children. Staff involvement ensures materials are adapted to the age range: eg. under three's given help with placing collage materials while three to four-year-olds are encouraged to express their ideas and how they will place materials on the paper. Equipment and furniture is suitable and used independently by children as far as possible.
- (Std 3)
- Good procedures in place to high standards of health and safety; premises are secure, Fire safety requirements are complied with and all staff are certified First Aiders.
- (Std 6)
- Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of children with

special needs. There is a Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and the manager has kept staff informed of their responsibilities. The team are working together to enable the group to be more inclusive. There is contact with other groups in the community. - (Std 10)

- Partnership with parents who are welcomed on arrival and encouraged to participate in the group's activities. Parents are consulted about current issues such as funding.
- (Std 12)

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Organisational planning is excellent; a draft developmental plan for 2002 -2003 provides an effective framework for the organisation and review of services. (Std 2)

What needs to be improved?

- Kitchen cupboard door needs to be replaced: the manager is aware of this and plans have been drafted to replace the whole kitchen.

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
6	Replace cupboard door in kitchen.

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.