



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109440

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/02/2005
Inspector Name	Bridget Richardson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Hollyhocks Montessori Playschool
Setting Address	Upper Wellingham Farmhouse Wellingham Lane, Ringmer Nr Lewes East Sussex BN8 5SW

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Sally Trotman
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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

Hollyhocks Montessori Playschool opened in 1994 and operates from a fourteenth century farmhouse in a rural location close to Ringmer. A maximum of 16 children may attend the setting at any one time. The playschool is open weekdays from 09:10 to 12:00 and on Wednesday and Thursday an afternoon session is also offered from 12:30 to 15:00. The setting is open term times only. All children have access to an outside play area.

There are currently 46 children aged from 2 to under 5 years on roll. Of these 32 children receive funding for nursery education. Children attending come from the local and surrounding areas. The setting supports children with special educational needs, and also children who speak English as an additional language.

The playschool employs six staff. Five of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

The standard and quality of care at Hollyhocks Montessori Playgroup is good. The setting is well organised and staff work well together as a team. They provide a warm, child friendly environment where children are happy and settled. There is an effective operational plan in place which guides the staff team in their daily practice. Good safety measures are in place and staff are effectively deployed to ensure children are safe and well cared for. Generally hygiene is of a good standard, however one improvement is required to ensure the hand washing facilities in the play room are suitable to reduce the risk of cross infection.

Staff have a good knowledge of each child's individual needs and interests. They form warm, caring relationships with the children who are happy and confident to try new experiences. Staff plan and provide an interesting range of worthwhile topics and activities, helping children make good progress in all areas of development. The playgroup organises the space and resources well, and children enjoy choosing from the activities provided and other resources available.

There is an effective partnership with parents and good links are forged between the setting and home. They are provided with useful information about the playgroup and a regular exchange of information on children's progress ensures their individual needs are well met. All the relevant documentation is clearly maintained and up to

date.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the playgroup agreed to ensure that procedures were in place to check an applicants health. Procedures have now been implemented to check an applicants health to ensure that they are suitable to work with children.

What is being done well?

- Children are involved in a wide range of activities which are easily accessible offering children freedom of choice.
- Staff are well deployed throughout the session. They interact positively with the children encouraging and praising their achievements.
- Staff act consistently when dealing with behavioural issues, taking in to account a child's age and stage of development.
- Warm, welcoming environment which is well maintained and inviting to both children and parents.
- All children are valued, included and their individual needs met, through a close working relationship with parents and other professionals as required.

What needs to be improved?

- the hand washing facilities in the play room.

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
7	Ensure hand washing facilities in the play room are effective to minimise the risk of cross infection.

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.