



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY234843

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/03/2004  
Inspector Name Jane Plested

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Little Bears Pre-School  
Setting Address St Leonards Village Hall  
Jenkins Lane  
St Leonards  
Buckinghamshire  
HP23 6NW

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Little Bears Pre-School

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Little Bears Pre-School  
Address 109 Lynton Road  
Chesham  
Buckinghamshire  
HP5 2BP

## 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

Little Bears Pre-School has been open for 17 years. It operates from the Village Hall in the small rural village of St Leonards. The premises comprise the main hall, veranda room, kitchen, storeroom and toilets. The adjoining playing field is used for outside activities.

There are currently 22 children on the roll. This includes 7 funded 3 year olds; there are no funded 4 year olds attending the setting. The setting currently is supporting children who speak English as an additional language but none have designated special needs.

The pre-school opens four days a week from 09:30 until 12:00. The children attend for a variety of sessions.

There are four staff who work with the children. The leader and two other staff members are working towards relevant early years qualifications at level three.

The pre-school is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PSLA). The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

Little Bears Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. Staff take opportunities to gain qualifications and work well together. The pre-school has insufficient procedures supporting staff induction. Most policies and procedures are in place. Some are not fully up to date and not all staff are fully familiar with the child protection policy. The pre-school has no procedure setting out what will happen if a child is lost. The setting provides a warm and welcoming environment where children can play and enjoy themselves and parents feel at ease.

Staff have a satisfactory understanding of safety issues; hazards have been identified, but staff deployment does not always ensure that the stage is supervised when children play on it. The pre-school is effective in promoting the children's good health. The staff have a good awareness of healthy eating which is encouraged through the snacks and drinks provided.

The pre-school provides an interesting range of activities and play materials that are used well by staff to develop children's early learning. Stories read by the staff to the

children are enjoyed. The leader places a high priority on settling children well and the parents value this. Children are confident in their relationships with adults and are well occupied and happy. Children are not always given equal access to participate. Staff have a good understanding of behaviour management strategies and children respond well to this.

The pre-school has some effective systems for developing good partnerships with parents. There is detailed and helpful information for parents via a number of sources. Most required records are kept but some recording procedures do not follow best practice.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Children are interested and absorbed in their play, both in the adult led and child centred activities. They freely choose from a good range of activities suitable for all age groups cared for. Their early learning of number, colour and shape is well supported by staff, on an individual basis and in the whole group activities. Activities such as hair dressing allow children to play co-operatively, to use tools such as brushes and combs, and to develop their dexterity by using hair bands and curlers. Stories read out loud are led skilfully by staff, encourage involvement and are enjoyed by children.
- The staff promote healthy eating effectively. The snacks offered are healthy and nutritious, for example, on the day of inspection apples, bananas and savoury crackers are offered. The children have access to drinks at all times. Staff sit at the table with children to make this an enjoyable and social occasion.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well, they take account of their level of understanding, and use strategies such as positive reinforcement to promote good behaviour. Children respond well to the clear guidance and praise given by staff. All staff give praise freely to children ensuring that they develop confidence and self esteem.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- policies and procedures, so that there are clear guidelines to follow if a child goes missing
- staff induction, so that there are clear systematic procedures covering staff induction
- staff deployment, so that children playing on the stage are supervised
- equal opportunities, so that children are able to participate in all activities
- child protection procedures, so that records of children's pre-existing injuries

are maintained and the staff are fully familiar with child protection issues

- policies, so that the equal opportunities, complaints, serious accident and child protection policies are updated and sufficiently detailed.

### 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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
2	Develop clear guidelines to follow if a child goes missing.	16/04/2004

#### The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
1	Develop systematic procedures for staff induction.
6	Ensure staff supervise children playing on the stage.
9	Make sure that children are able to participate in all activities.
13	Ensure records of children's pre-existing injuries are kept and the staff are fully familiar with child protection issues.
14	Ensure that the equal opportunities, complaints, serious accident and child protection policies are updated and sufficiently detailed.

## **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.*