



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305167

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	10/06/2003
Inspector Name	Susan Patricia Birkenhead

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	LITTLE OWLS PRE SCHOOL
Setting Address	RUDHEATH YOUTH CENTR NORTHWICH CHESHIRE CW9 7JL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs JEANETTE CATTERALL
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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

Little Owls Pre-School is an independent, privately funded Pre-School for children aged two years six months to statutory school age. The group has been registered under the current ownership since September 1999. They operate from two designated rooms within the Youth Centre at Rudheath, one of which is for their sole use the second room is used by the centre outside the hours the Pre-School operates. The youth centre is situated on the outskirts of the village adjacent to Rudheath County Primary School. The group is currently registered to accommodate 22 children at any one time and is open Monday to Friday 9-11:45am, plus 1-3pm. Children are cared for on a sessional day care basis. The group accommodate three and four year old children in receipt of funding. The registered person who holds an NNEB qualification, employs a Supervisor who is qualified to NVQ level three in Child Care and Education, and takes responsibility for the day to day management of the group. In addition five other members of staff are employed of whom two hold Early Years qualifications and one member of staff holds a First Aid qualification.. Children attend from the immediate community and surrounding areas of Northwich.

How good is the Day Care?

Little Owls Pre-school provides satisfactory quality care for children. Children are cared for by a mix of qualified and unqualified staff in line with the regulations. Staff attend additional workshops and training to extend their knowledge and child care practices. The premises are warm and welcoming, children are grouped according to their age and stage of development and staff are deployed effectively in order to meet the needs of the children. Records, policies and procedures required for the efficient and safe management of the provision and to promote the welfare, care and learning of the children are maintained, although there are aspects which need to be reviewed and updated. Positive steps are taken to promote safety within the setting and outdoors and precautions are taken to prevent accidents. One member of staff is a qualified first aider. The staff encourage children to eat healthily by following the Dental Health programme for healthy eating. A wide range of resources to reflect positive images of race, culture and disability are provided. Staff plan a broad range of activities and play opportunities for children termly following specific themes, which support their language, mathematical thinking, imagination and creativity, appropriate to the ages and stages of development of the children cared for . They interact with the children and show interest in what the children do and say by talking to them and asking them questions to make them think for themselves. Staff recognise and encourage the children's achievements through praise and rewarding

them with stickers. Information relating to the children is shared with their parents at the beginning and end of each session. Parents are invited to attend organised parents afternoons twice yearly and end of term newsletters are issued

What has improved since the last inspection?

During the last inspection the actions raised referred to the daily attendance register including the arrival and departure times of the staff and children present, the supervisor was asked to review the information held regarding the pre-school operations against the standards and amend accordingly and to complete a Risk assessment of the setting. Since the last inspection attention has been given to the attendance register which now reflects the arrival time of the children, their name is ticked when they leave, unless they leave earlier or later and then the time is recorded next to their name. The staff names are recorded but the arrival and departure times are not entered. The information previously held was reviewed and amendments made to increase the information held relating to practices and procedures. A risk assessment has since been completed and is reviewed throughout the year.

What is being done well?

procedures in place ensure that any person who has not been vetted is never left alone with children. (standard 1). staff have attended additional training and work shops to extend their knowledge of care practices. (standard 2). staff plan and provide a range of activities and play opportunities using the toys and materials available, which are monitored regularly to assist in planning the next steps in children's play and learning. (standard 3 & 5). space is organised to meet the requirements of the children according to their age and stage of development. (standard 4). positive steps are taken to promote children's safety within the setting and outdoors and systems are in place for reviewing risks. (standard 6). healthy eating at snack time is based on the Dental Health programme. (standard 8). children's good behaviour is valued and encouraged by all staff. (standard 11). systems are in place to share information with parents about their Child's developmental progress. (standard 12).

What needs to be improved?

the name/telephone number of the registered provider and all staff are to be available on the premises and a system for recording the times of arrival and departure of the staff and visitors details included in the attendance register. (standard 2) policies for uncollected children, child protection and complaints to be updated (standard 2,12,13). incidents recorded are signed by parents to acknowledge the information has been shared. (standard 11).

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date
2	Ensure the name/telephone number of all the staff employed and the Registered provider are available on the premises.	10/07/2003

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
2	Include the procedure to be followed for uncollected children, in the policy document.
11	Ensure that all incidents recorded following any necessary physical intervention reflect the child's full name and are shared with parents.
12	Ensure the statement of procedures where a parent has a complaint includes the address and telephone number of the regulator.
13	Ensure the Child Protection policy reflects the procedures followed, which are in line with the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures.
14	Ensure the attendance register reflects the details of visitors to the premises and the times of arrival and departure of the staff on duty.

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.