



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 133723

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 03/02/2004
Inspector Name Gillian Little

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Longworth Pre-School
Setting Address Longworth School
Longworth
Abingdon
Oxfordshire
OX13 5ER

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of LONGWORTH PRE-SCHOOL

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name LONGWORTH PRE-SCHOOL
Address LONGWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL
LONGWORTH
ABINGDON
OXON
OX13 5BX

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

Longworth Pre-School operates from the school hall on two mornings each week and from the village hall on three mornings. The Pre-School serves the local area.

There are currently 28 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 12 funded three year olds and five funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:15 until 11:45. Children attending the school sessions have the option of staying for lunch until 13:00.

Four part-time staff work with the children. Half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level two or three. Two staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a development worker from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). The group is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

The pre-school provides satisfactory care for children. There are appropriate numbers of qualified staff and there are good adult: child ratios. The premises are generally well maintained and provide a welcoming and secure environment. There is an appropriate range of toys and resources. Much of the required paperwork is in place but some areas need to be updated and improved. The committee does not effectively support the staff who are expected to manage the pre-school themselves. The committee has not carried out vetting procedures on its members.

The staff keep children safe at all times but need to ensure that fire exits are not obstructed. Staff help the children to learn about health and hygiene. They take appropriate steps when children are ill. They ensure that children have regular snacks and drinks which are healthy and nutritious. There are satisfactory procedures in place to deal with child protection concerns.

The pre-school offers a good range of stimulating activities across all learning areas. Staff know children well and are able to meet their individual needs. They spend their time playing with and talking to the children which helps to develop good relationships. They help children to learn about people in the world around them

through suitable topics and activities but the pre-school could improve resources to support this area. Staff use suitable methods to deal with difficult behaviour. They recognise and praise positive behaviour.

The staff develop good partnerships with parents who are happy with the care provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The staff provide a good range of interesting activities which help children to make progress in all areas of their development. They have detailed plans in place and follow these to provide a broad curriculum. The staff interact well with the children asking questions and encouraging discussions. This helps to extend the children's thinking and develop their skills. The staff are friendly and approachable. They are very attentive and are able to meet children's individual needs.
- The staff organise themselves well and ensure that there is a high ratio of adults to children. They are deployed effectively within the group so that they are able to supervise children closely and meet their individual needs. They organise space and resources to provide a welcoming and appropriate environment. The staff are suitably qualified and willing to undertake additional training to update their childcare knowledge.
- The staff act as good role models and give the children lots of praise and encouragement. They keep children occupied and spend time playing with them which helps to discourage unwanted behaviour. When such behaviour does occur the staff have a positive and consistent approach. They use methods suitable to the ages and understanding of the children. This helps children to learn the difference between right and wrong and to resolve conflicts effectively.
- The staff develop positive relationships with parents. They make them feel welcome and encourage their help within the group. They ensure that parents have suitable information about the group and their children's progress. As a result parents are happy with the care provided. The parent questionnaires received included many positive comments such as "a calm, caring environment", "gentle and caring staff who are approachable and friendly" and "a good range of activities".

What needs to be improved?

- management leadership by the committee
- vetting of committee members

- implementation of risk assessments procedures to be followed if a child becomes lost or a parent fails to collect a child updated policies to reflect the National Standards
- access to fire exits
- resources to support children's understanding of our diverse society.

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
1	Ensure that staff are fully supported by an effective management committee who are able to carry out the responsibilities detailed in the National Standards and Guidance.	03/08/2004
1	Ensure that committee members complete appropriate vetting procedures.	03/06/2004
14	Ensure that there are procedures in place in the event of a child becoming lost or a parent failing to collect a child.	03/05/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
6	Conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying actions to be taken to minimize identified risks.
6	Ensure that fire exits are not obstructed.
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

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.