



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 128463

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	24/09/2003
Inspector Name	Rufia Uddin

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Downshall Pre-school Playgroup.
Setting Address	St John's Church Hall. St John's Road, Newbury Park. Ilford. Essex. IG2 7DB.

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of The Committee of Downshall Pre-School Playgroup 1033589
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Downshall Pre-School Playgroup
Address	St. Johns Church Centre St. Johns Road Newbury Park Ilford, Essex IG2 7BB

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

Downshall Pre-School Playgroup opened in 1992. The group continues to be managed by the Church Committee under the guidance of the vicar. It operates from the large church hall, small hall, kitchen and toilet facilities at St Johns Church Hall. It serves the local area.

There are currently 35 children from 2- 5 years on roll. This includes a number of funded three and 4 years old children. Children attend a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:15 until 11:45.

Nine full-time staff work with the children. All of them have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.(EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Downshall Pre-School Playgroup offers good care for children. The group provides a stimulating environment where children have a variety of learning opportunities. There is a good range of play materials and activities for all children's developmental needs and interests. Staff work closely with the children and have an understanding of the children's individual needs but could develop a deeper understanding of child protection issues by attending relevant training.

The premises are warm and welcoming and provide space for children to play. Most of policies and procedures and especially the operational plan were revised in September 2003 and staff implement them well. There is good organisation of the day that allows staff time to play, talk, and listen to children whilst supporting them in their activities. Staff have a good understanding of safety issues and appropriate levels of supervision are maintained.

The group at present is caring for children with special needs and key workers work closely with the borough special needs team to gain extra support to accommodate the needs of the children.

Parents receive good information about their children's activities and developmental progress. An effective key worker system is in operation and key workers are

available to discuss any childcare issues on a daily basis. Parents have access to the operational policies and procedures. The record keeping is organised with the required information maintained and easily accessible.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the setting has introduced a complaint's record book and incident record book, and some of the staff members have completed the Basic Food Hygiene Course. The playgroup has revised most of the policies and procedures and has acquired an appropriate range resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice

What is being done well?

- The premises provide an appropriate and welcoming environment for the children.
- The programme of activities is varied and structured around the children's needs.
- Appropriate resources and equipment are provided to enable children to fully participate.
- Partnerships with parents are valued and systems for exchanging information are in place.
- Wide range of activities easily accessible to children, many of which reflect positive images of race, religion, culture, gender and disabilities.
- Staff are committed to training and updating their knowledge and understanding of issues surrounding special educational needs and child protection issues.
- Staff know the children well, they understand their needs, and interaction between staff and children is good and staff support the children's learning.

What needs to be improved?

- develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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.