



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 306348

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	03/06/2003
Inspector Name	June Cotton

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	Wirral Play Council Special Needs
Setting Address	1 Berner Street Birkenhead Wirral CH41 4JJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Wirral play Council Committee
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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
Wirral Play Council Special Needs Playscheme operates from the Wirral Play Development Centre in Berner Street Birkenhead. The playscheme uses the main hall, the art room, a sensory snoozelum room, the quiet room, the kitchen and the toilets on the ground floor and on the first floor the library room. There is a small enclosed outside play area. Registration to the scheme takes place in the entrance hall. The playscheme is registered to provide 43 places for children including children under eight during the week, with 20 children attending the Saturday Session. The children attend sessions during term time and during the school holidays. All the children attending have special needs. The playscheme operates sessions on a Tuesday and Friday from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm during the school term times. During the school holidays the sessions are each week day from 10.00 am to 3.00pm. A session is held each Saturday from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm throughout the year. The staff working with the children are employed throughout the year on a part time basis, with additional staff brought in to work on the school holiday playschemes, Mrs Bonny takes overall responsibility and she has a deputy and two senior playleaders to whom she will delegate responsibility.

How good is the Day Care?
Wirral Playcouncil Special Needs Playscheme Provides good care for children. The organisation of the playscheme is good. Staff offer a warm friendly environment which is welcoming to the children and parents. The playrooms are well planned with space for physical, craft and quiet activities. The space is used effectively to meet the children's needs. Toys and equipment are clean, sufficient and easily accessible. Records are kept up to date but staff records were not easily accessible and parents had not been informed in writing each time their child received medication. The established staff team ensure continuity of care for the children and effective plans are in place to ensure that staff achieve relevant qualifications. The children are offered a wide range of activities which may be adapted to meet their individual needs. Staff ensure that the privacy of children is respected when intimate care is being provided. The children are occupied, interested and having fun. Staff have developed good relationships with the children and they are consistent in their approaches whilst respecting the children's individual levels of understanding. There are effective risk assessments in place with individual staff taking responsibility for their own area. The premises are secure and unauthorised person cannot gain access to the playrooms. Staff are vigilant about the safety of the children throughout the session, ensuring they do not leave the room unescorted. Good

procedures are in place for promoting good hygiene and effective records are kept with regards to the children's health. Good systems are in place for working in partnership with parents. Detailed information is gathered from them to enable staff to ensure that the individual needs of the children are met. Through questionnaires parents expressed how happy they are with the care their children are receiving and of the confidence they have with the staff.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Actions from the last inspection have been met:- * the store cupboard is now inaccessible to the children. * written consents are obtained from parents prior to medication being given * staff have attended food hygiene training * policies have been reviewed

What is being done well?

The quality of interaction between the staff and children ensuring that the children are stimulated and happy. The provision of a wide range of interesting and fun activities for the children, which are adapted to meet their individual needs. (Standards 3 & 9) the friendly and welcoming environment with the effective use of space. The vigilance of the staff team who ensure the safety of the children by taking steps to ensure that hazards are minimised. (Standards 2 & 6) the staff's clear guidance and praise to which the children respond well. Staff working in partnership with parents thus providing consistency for the children. (Standard 11 & 12) the confidence which parents have in the staff, feeling welcome, relaxed and involved with the care their children are receiving. (Standard 12)

What needs to be improved?

the system for ensuring staff details are kept up to date and easily accessible

Outcome of the inspection

Good

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown

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

Std	Recommendation
7	ensure parents are kept fully informed when their child has been given

	medication
14	ensure that staff records are kept up to date and are easily available

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.