



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY289249

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 18/01/2005
Inspector Name Sharon Woodrow

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Pre School at St Albans
Setting Address St. Albans RC Primary School
First Avenue
Harlow
Essex
CM20 2NP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Pre School at St Albans 5103008

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Pre School at St Albans
Address First Avenue
Harlow
Essex
CM20 2NP

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

Pre School at St Albans Catholic Nursery is run by and attached to the St Albans Roman Catholic Primary School.

It opened in 2004 and operates from 2 rooms in a purpose-built nursery building. It is situated in the centre of Harlow at the front of the Primary School.

A maximum of 15 children may attend the nursery at any one time.

The nursery is open each weekday 9.00 until 11.30 and 12.40 until 15.10 during term time only.

All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 30 children aged from three to under five years on roll. All of these children receive funding for nursery education.

Children come from a wide catchment and the local area, as most of their parents choose to access the Catholic School.

The nursery supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and would support children with special educational needs.

The nursery employs two staff, the nursery supervisor holds an appropriate early years qualification and the other member of staff is working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Pre School at St Albans provides satisfactory care for children aged three to five years.

The Pre School has a comfortable environment which is organised so there are many opportunities to practice and develop language and literacy skills. There is self access equipment and child centred and educational displays. The staff and managers have appropriate skills and experience and ensure effective documentation is in place.

Proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents although written permission from parents must be sought before administering medication to children. The Pre School

promotes healthy eating and children are given a variety of fresh fruit to try as a snack. The staff are aware of their responsibilities in regard to child protection and children with special needs. All children are treated with equal concern and equal opportunities is promoted within the setting.

The Pre School children are given opportunities to experiment and staff encourage thought provoking learning and descriptive language. Literacy labels are on display in the provision to support early reading skills. Children are provided with a stimulating range and balance of activities to make progress in all areas of their development. Staff are vigilant, observe what children do and plan for the next steps in children's learning.

The Pre School staff hold informative sessions for parents about the early learning goals and how children are taught and work alongside parents to build relationships.

What has improved since the last inspection?

First inspection since registration

What is being done well?

- The children are given opportunities to experiment which inspires interest and investigation.
- There are literacy labels on display in the provision to support early reading skills which enables children to practice word recognition.
- The staff encourage thought provoking learning and descriptive language which gives children opportunities to become independent thinkers.
- The children are provided with a stimulating range and balance of activities which stimulates progress in all areas of their learning and development.
- The staff observe what children do and plan for the next steps in children's learning which ensures evaluative teaching and opportunities appropriate to extending children's development.
- The Pre School is a child centred environment with displays that value children's own work.
- The physical environment is organised so there are many opportunities to practice and develop language and literacy skills which supports children's early reading.
- The staff hold informative sessions for parents about the early learning goals and how children are taught which enables parents to understand their child's progress and development.

What needs to be improved?

- the written permission to administer medication

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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

Std	Recommendation
7	obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children

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.