



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 229181

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/09/2003
Inspector Name Sharon Veronica Yorke

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Aston Locks Day Nursery
Setting Address Richard Street
Aston
Birmingham
West Midlands
B7 4AA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Princess Christian Nurseries Ltd 861615

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Princess Christian Nurseries Ltd
Address Anglia House
Eden Place
Cheadle
Cheshire
SK8 1AT

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

Aston Locks Day Nursery is one of a large group of nurseries run by Nord Anglia. The nursery operates from a purpose build single storey building. Four rooms are used for the care of children, in which children are grouped according to age. A large enclosed outdoor play area is also available for the use of children. The nursery is set just outside of Birmingham city centre and is surrounded by business developments.

The nursery caters for full and part-time children's places. This includes education grant funded places for three and four year olds.

Aston Locks Day Nursery operates five days a week all year round and is open 07.30 - 18.00.

Staff currently operate various shift patterns. One hundred percent of staff working with children hold level two and level three early years child care qualifications. There are no children with special needs presently attending the nursery. The nursery has contact with a Birmingham City Council Special Needs Advisor, regarding the development of related policies.

How good is the Day Care?

Aston Locks Day Nursery provides satisfactory childcare.

There are effective procedures in place for recruitment and vetting staff, however the induction process is limited. The nursery environment is warm, welcoming and friendly to children and parents. The premises are spacious and children appear reasonably happy and secure. Meals are nutritious but lack variety that portrays the multicultural community.

Aston Locks takes positive measures to ensure the safety of children within the premises, with signing in procedures and regular risk assessments. Staff actively observe and promote good health and hygiene practices. Comprehensive policies and procedures are in place to guard against illness and infection and for the administration of any medication to children.

Individual room activity plans are in use that children understand and are familiar with. Staff speak to children and encourage their learning and good behaviour with praise. The quantity and variety of children's equipment is in need of re-evaluation.

There are generally good working partnerships with parents, with regular newsletters and biannual parent meetings. Children's details and development records are up to date.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were no actions raised at the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- There are effective procedures in place to ensure that all staff receive thorough vetting and full employment histories taken up on all childcare staff. The management team all have extensive practice childcare experience.
- Aston Locks Day Nursery exceed to the requirements for the percentage of staff holding relevant childcare qualifications. One hundred percent of staff hold nationally recognized childcare qualifications. Training is on going to ensure that all staff hold a current First Aid Certificate.
- The physical environment is warm and welcoming to both children and parents and is clean and well maintained. The day nursery benefits from much natural sunlight and is spacious allowing scope for free movement of children and spreading of activities.
- There are effective procedures in place to protect children from illness and infection. There are written guidelines on exclusion periods for infectious illnesses, which are made available to parent. Staff observe good hygiene practices and routines with children.
- There are a comprehensive range of documentation, policies and procedures governing the operation of the day nursery, which is made available to parents via notice display. Individual children and parent information is stored securely to maintain confidentiality.

What needs to be improved?

- The staff induction process, particularly for agency staff
- the outdoor play area, particularly the surface area and wall
- the children's menu, to contain cultural variation
- children's play resources, so that they are plentiful and diverse
- information sharing with parents, particularly staff changes.

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
2	Ensure that all new staff, including agency staff receive induction training, covering policies, procedures and practices.
3	Ensure that staff working baby rooms are made familiar with babies individual needs and stage of development.
5	Ensure that there are sufficient children's resources and that they positively reflect children and adults from a variety of racial and cultural backgrounds, as well as children and adults with disabilities.
6	Ensure that safety and maintainance of outdoor play area is regularly reviewed.
8	Ensure that menus include foods that reflect the cultural diversity of children attending the day nursery.
11	Ensure that behaviour management procedures are made available to all staff.
12	Ensure that parents are kept informed of staffing and procedural changes within the day nursery.
13	Obtain up to date copy of Birmingham Child Protection Procedures for Child Care Providers,

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.