



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 146001

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 30/04/2004
Inspector Name Doreen Forsyth

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Perham Down Pre-school
Setting Address Cachy Buildings
Swinton Barracks, Perham Down,
ANDOVER
Hampshire
SP10 9LQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Army Welfare Service 1079392

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Army Welfare Service
Address Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison
Horne Road, Bulford
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP4 9AE

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

Perham Down Pre-school opened in 1980. It operates from its own building consisting of two playrooms, entrance hall and offices. The pre-school is in Perham Down near Tidworth, Wiltshire, and is part of the military establishment there. Perham Down Pre-school serves the local military areas and nearby villages.

There are currently fifty one children aged from one to five years on roll. This includes twenty three funded three and four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9.00 until 12.00 each morning, and 12.45 until 15.15 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

Eight members of staff work with the children. Half of these have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from Wiltshire's Early Years team and is a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Perham Down Pre-school provides satisfactory care for children. The pre-school is well managed and uses a range of appropriate and well written policies and procedures to ensure the smooth organisation of the setting. The daily record of attendance does not show the times when children are present. The premises used are safe and secure. Staff ensure the pre-school is warm, bright and welcoming for children and their families, but the available toilet facilities are inadequate. Half of the staff have appropriate qualifications in early years, and others plan to attend training next term. Some staff have limited knowledge of equal opportunities and special needs issues. The pre-school has a good selection of toys and resources; they are well organised so that children can access them easily.

There are appropriate health and safety procedures in place. Staff are very vigilant in ensuring children's safety. Most staff have relevant first aid training. Children are provided with regular drinks and enjoy healthy snacks. The good adult to child ratios, and the effective use of the key worker system ensures children's individual needs are well met, including those of children with special educational needs or who have English as an additional language. Most staff are trained in child protection issues

and are able to deal with any child protection concerns effectively.

Staff interact well with the children. They are interested in what they do and say, and answer their questions appropriately. They use the assessments and observations they make to plan for the children's next steps in their learning. The opportunities for children to explore, investigate and to have challenge in their play are sometimes limited.

The partnership with parents is good. Parents are given good information about the pre-school and their children's progress and are welcomed into the setting. They know their children's keyworker and are able to discuss any concerns with them.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the previous inspection the setting was asked to do the following,

1 Increase and effectively use your range of resources that reflect positive image of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.

The children were observed playing with a good range of resources that promote equal opportunities at this inspection.

2 Ensure the outside slide does not present a hazard to children.

The slide has been removed, and is therefore no longer a hazard.

3 Ensure when managing behaviour, children's level of understanding and maturity in taken into account.

Staff follow 'in house' behaviour procedures to ensure consistency throughout the setting and to ensure staff have a suitable understanding of appropriate methods of managing children's behaviour. Staff have on going training in behaviour management.

4 Ensure the written complaints procedure includes Ofsted's address and telephone number.

The current complaints procedure which is available to all parents includes Ofsted's address and telephone number as the regulatory body.

5 Carry out a risk assessment of the premises.

The setting carries out regular risk assessments, these are recorded in the operational plan. Staff also check the outside area each session before the children play outside, to ensure their safety.

6 Provide suitable nappy changing facilities.

The pre-school has installed a nappy changing unit and provides appropriate nappy changing facilities for the children.

7 Provide healthy, nutritious snacks for all children, taking their preference into account.

At this inspection children were seen enjoying bananas and biscuits and choosing their own drinks. A menu of the monthly snacks is displayed showing that the snacks are varied, nutritious and well balanced.

What is being done well?

- Staff implement the health and safety policies well. They carry out regular risk assessments both indoors and in the spacious outside play areas. Staff do their utmost to ensure children are kept safe.
- There is a very good partnership with parents. Staff use daily home link books, and activity sheets for younger children, to inform parents about their children's progress. Informative newsletters, a comprehensive prospectus and an interesting notice boards keep parents well informed about the provision.
- The staff receive appropriate child protection training to ensure they have a good understanding of child protection issues and can protect children by reporting any concerns effectively.
- The pre-school uses a range of well written policies and procedure to ensure the efficient and safe management of the provision.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements for recording children's attendance
- the staff's awareness of equal opportunity issues
- the toilet facilities for children
- the children's opportunities to explore and investigate in their play
- the staff's understanding of the special educational needs codes of practice.

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 the register is completed as children arrive into the setting, and shows the times when staff and children are present.
3	Ensure children have enough opportunities to investigate, explore and be challenged in their play.
4	Ensure the toilets used by the children are safe and suitable.
9	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities issues.
10	Ensure all staff have an appropriate understanding of the Codes of Practice (2002) for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs.

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.