



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 137332

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/10/2004
Inspector Name Lara Hickson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Petts Wood Playgroup for Children With Special Needs
Setting Address Christ Church (United Reformed Church)
Willett Way, Petts Wood
Orpington
Kent
BR5 1LH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of PETTS WOOD PLAYGROUP 803792

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name PETTS WOOD PLAYGROUP
Address 10 The Chenies
Orpington
Kent
BR6 0ED

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

Petts Wood Playgroup for children with special needs operates in the United Reformed Church Hall in Willett Way, Petts Wood. The playgroup is committee run and currently holds registered charity status. The playgroup was founded in 1968 and is well established in the local community. The playgroup has ample car parking, excellent transport routes and is within walking distance of local shops and amenities.

The playgroup is run by Mrs Larry Simpson who is a state registered nurse and who also holds a PLA qualification and is an NVQ Assessor. There are 39 regular volunteers who also work at the playgroup, attending on the same day each week to ensure continuity of care. Many of the volunteers hold a valid first aid qualification and many have appropriate childcare qualifications including early years teaching, PLA and level 3 childcare qualifications. The Playgroup also employs 2 drivers and 4 escorts, as many of the children are transported to and from the group in the group's mini bus.

The group operates term-time only and is open from Mondays to Friday from 9.45 to 12.15. In addition there is also an afternoon session on Tuesdays from 12.45 to 14.45 which is available when the numbers on the waiting list are high.

All children attending the playgroup have been assessed as having a special educational need and have been referred by health professionals or their parents. There are currently 27 children on roll and one of these has English as an additional language. There are 14 funded 3 year olds and 2 funded 4 year olds.

Petts Wood Playgroup is included in Bromley's Early Years Development and Childcare Plan. The staff team plan a curriculum based on the Foundation Stage. Activities are planned and organised to reflect the six areas of learning and are adapted to suit the individual needs of all the children.

The playgroup's philosophy is to provide a safe and stimulating environment which enables each child the opportunity to achieve his or her potential.

How good is the Day Care?

Petts Wood playgroup for children with special needs offers good quality care. The environment is warm, welcoming and stimulating for children and their parents and

space is imaginatively used. Staffing levels within the nursery are high and there is a clear commitment to on-going training and development. The operational plan outlines the groups aims and objectives and all staff and volunteers are aware of how the group operates.

There is an extensive range of resources including a selection that reflect positive images. The staff team encourage all children to participate in a wide range of activities and experiences appropriate to their individual needs. There are effective systems in place to ensure that each child's individual needs are identified. This forms the basis of the planning and a varied range of activities are provided to offer an appropriate level of challenge and interest to each child.

Staff demonstrated a good knowledge of health and safety issues. There are well thought out precautions in place to minimise risks to children and all staff are aware of the Child Protection policy. The children are provided with a range of healthy snacks according to their individual needs.

The staff team have an excellent understanding of special educational needs and support and encourage children with a whole range of complex needs and requirements. Staff are active in including all children in the provision and work closely with other agencies to meet the needs of all children. Staff consistently manage children's behaviour in a positive manner, using praise to reinforce good behaviour. The staff team work closely with parents and ensure daily feedback is provided about their child's progress and development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A

What is being done well?

- The comprehensive operational plan contributes to a well organised, professional group.
- The extensive range of activities provided offer challenges appropriate to each child's age, stage of development and level of understanding.
- Children are provided with a wide and varied range of toys and play materials, including those aimed at promoting positive images of people in the community.
- Relationships with children are well established. The staff team know the children well and are very aware of their individual needs, capabilities and preferences.
- The staff team demonstrate a good understanding and high regard of safety issues within the setting. Risk assessments are carried out on a regular basis and any potential hazards are identified and effectively reduced.
- All children are treated as individuals and the staff team are committed to ensuring that individual needs and requirements are met appropriately. An inclusive approach is promoted in all areas of the playgroup and children are

encouraged to participate in all activities appropriate to their individual capabilities and understanding.

- Behaviour management is positive, consistent and appropriate to each child's age and level of understanding manner. The staff team use praise and encouragement to reinforce good behaviour.
- The staff team work closely with parents and ensure daily feedback is provided about their child's progress and development. Parents are given a comprehensive pack which includes the policies and procedures.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The playgroup has a comprehensive operational plan in place which includes detailed policies and procedures. This ensures that all staff and volunteers are aware of the aims, objectives and routines of the group and that good practice is followed in all areas. An extensive parents pack offers support and information. The clear, well documented information has an impact on the service that the group is providing to the children and their parent carers.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation regarding attendance registers for children.

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
2	Ensure that the attendance register includes times of arrival and departure for children attending the playgroup.

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.