



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 122744

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/06/2004
Inspector Name Ceri Ann Mills

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name The Horseshoe Community Pre-School
Setting Address Banstead Youth Centre
The Horseshoe, Bolters Lane
Banstead
Surrey
SM7 2BQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Horseshoe Community Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Horseshoe Community Pre-School
Address Banstead Youth Centre
The Horseshoe, Bolters Lane
Banstead
Surrey
SM7 2BQ

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

The Horseshoe Community Pre-school has been established in Banstead village, Surrey since 1974.

It is managed by a parent committee and serves the local community.

The pre-school operates from the Youth Centre, Monday - Friday, term time only from 09:15 - 12:00. In the Spring and Summer terms the pre-school offer two afternoon workshops, Wednesday and Thursday, for children over four years of age.

During operational hours the pre-school has sole use of a large sports hall, a small room, a kitchen, toilet facilities and an enclosed outside play area.

The pre-school accepts children in the term of their third birthday and up to the age of five years.

There are 35 children on roll and of these 30 are 3 and 4 year olds in receipt of early years funding. None of the children are learning English as an additional language and there are a small number of children with special educational needs.

There are seven staff employed and five work directly with the children each session. Five members of staff have a recognised childcare qualification and three hold a current first aid certificate.

How good is the Day Care?

The Horseshoe Community Pre-school provides good quality care for children.

The staff and parent committee work in partnership to ensure regulatory requirements are met. The pre-school is well organised and most staff have a relevant childcare qualification and a current first aid certificate. All staff have opportunities to continue to enhance their childcare knowledge through training workshops. Much effort is made by staff to transform the sports hall into a child centred environment. There is good accessibility to the building and resources are plentiful and well maintained.

All regulatory documentation is in place and stored securely, however some records lack the necessary details and do not always ensure confidentiality.

Staff demonstrate a vigilant attitude to health and safety by ensuring appropriate measures are in place to protect children. Staff and children are familiar with and regularly practice fire evacuation procedures. The pre-school meets children's dietary needs well with a healthy range of snacks and drinks. Staff have experience of supporting children with special needs and ensure relevant care plans are developed.

The equal opportunities policy takes account of current relevant legislation and anti-discriminatory practice is promoted well.

Staff are fully aware of their responsibilities regarding child protection issues and share these with parents.

The pre-school provides a rich and stimulating range of learning experiences which are carefully planned to cover all areas of development. Activities are purposeful and the children enjoy learning through play.

Staff encourage good behaviour and children respond well to the staff's caring guidance.

The pre-school has an 'open door' policy and parents are welcome to talk to staff at any time. Key work staff keep parents informed about their child's progress, achievements and development and parents have access to a wide range of relevant information.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff foster warm relationships with the children, resulting in happy and settled children who respond well to adults and their peers. Staff give the children calm and caring guidance, through which they learn to appreciate and value each other.
- The pre-school operates a key worker system. Key staff make ongoing assessments of the children's needs and use their observations to plan the next steps for play, learning and development. Parents have regular opportunities to meet with their child's key worker.
- Security within the building is given a high priority. All visitors are required to sign in and staff record children's arrival and departure times. Staff are deployed effectively and closely supervise children when moving from the sports hall to the toilets or the outside play area.
- Staff plan rich and stimulating play opportunities which support all aspects of the children's development. Activities are changed frequently to provide sufficient choice and variation. The children readily take part and enjoy many first hand learning experiences.

What needs to be improved?

- the confidentiality of accident records
- knowledge of child's language spoken at home.

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
14	Review format for recording accidents to ensure confidentiality.
14	Review personal information gathered on child detail form.

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.