



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 310205

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/07/2003
Inspector Name Shirley Peart

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care, Full Day Care
Setting Name Childcare Wideopen
Setting Address Taylor Avenue
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE13 6NA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Childrens Services

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Childrens Services
Address Camden Street
North Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE30 1NW

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

Childcare Wideopen opened in 1991. It operates from four main rooms in a converted nursery building in a semi-rural location, in Wideopen, North Tyneside. The nursery serves the local area but is also conveniently situated for children and families from Newcastle upon Tyne and Northumberland.

There are currently 64 children from babies to under five years on roll. This includes 14 funded three-year-olds and four funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery can offer a wrap around/out of school scheme for 10 children although this is not operating at present. There are currently no children attending who have special needs or who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 7:30 until 18:00.

Fifteen staff work with the children, eleven of whom are full-time and four part-time; all have early years qualifications and there is currently one student on a placement. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). The nursery is part of the North Tyneside Childcare scheme and works within the philosophy of the North Tyneside approach of learning through play.

How good is the Day Care?

Childcare Wideopen provides a good standard of care. There is a long standing staff team who work well together and the manager and deputy are committed and supportive to them.

A comprehensive set of written policies and procedures are available which underpin the running of the nursery. As the nursery is part of the local council provision, in-house procedures are also developed to ensure that these are pertinent to particular issues within the nursery setting. There is one outstanding procedure which is currently being developed.

All staff have relevant qualifications and regularly attend ongoing training to enhance and develop their knowledge. Good recording systems are in place which enable staff to monitor the children's care, safety and development on an individual basis.

All rooms have appropriate planning in place and a flexible daily routine to follow.

The good use of natural and real objects for heuristic play for the under twos is a particular strength of the nursery. Children aged from two to under five years are appropriately grouped and have easy access to a wide variety of activities and equipment. They are also provided with an interesting curriculum which enhances their all round development. All staff are well deployed throughout the nursery rooms. Staff are attentive and confident in their approach to the care of young children, therefore children are happy and secure in their environment.

Parents are given a useful booklet on the setting and informative, regular newsletters. Information about children's progress and development is regularly passed on verbally and also at regular planned sessions where parents can discuss progress on a more formal basis with their child's key worker. Parents are happy with the care offered.

What has improved since the last inspection?

From the last inspection the nursery was asked to: provide evidence of staff and student clearances; provide evidence of public liability insurance and acquire up to date Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) guidelines.

It was stated that, as this is a council-run nursery, all staff are cleared and copies of clearances are held at the head office within the council. While the public liability insurance certificate is now displayed, this had recently expired. It was stated that the updated one should arrive shortly for display. The nursery now has relevant Child Protection guidelines and staff attend relevant courses.

What is being done well?

- All children, including the younger one to three year olds, are happy, settled, and confident within their environment(Standard 3).
- Staff give lots of verbal encouragement and are appropriately involved in children's play so that children's language development and social skills are developed well (Standard 3).
- There is an abundance of good quality equipment, including natural and real materials, which are easily accessible to babies and children. this encourages choice and independence (Standard 5).
- Staff use positive behaviour management strategies with children that are appropriate to their age and stage of development, therefore children's behaviour is good (Standard 11).
- Record keeping is very detailed and organised. Each room takes responsibility for their recording which ensures that children's individual care and development needs are met and monitored well (Standard 14).

What needs to be improved?

- the procedure for lost children (Standard 2);

- the environment regarding the displays and within the book corner in the three to fives room (Standard 4);
- the accessibility of drinking water to ensure that children are aware that this is available to them (Standard 8).

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 a lost child procedure is included in the uncollected child policy.
4	Enhance the environment by displaying further children's work, colourful posters and images, including those that reflect non-stereotypical roles, cultural and religious pictures at children's eye level.
4	Consider increasing the provision and appropriate furniture for older children who wish to relax and play quietly
8	Make sure that children are aware that drinking water is available to them at all times

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.