



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 131604

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/12/2003
Inspector Name Elly Bik-Kuen Wong

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Nursery @ Itchen College
Setting Address Middle Road
Bitterne
Southampton
Hampshire
SO19 7TB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of D Boggett/D Foster/M Perryman/S Holmes

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name D Boggett/D Foster/M Perryman/S Holmes
Address Darinian
Panwell Road
Southampton
Hampshire
SO18 6BJ

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 Nursery at Itchen College has been opened since 2001. It operates from a building with disabled access, within the grounds of Itchen College, in eastern Southampton. There are three large areas for children, with adjacent office, kitchen, disabled toilet, staff, and outside play facilities. The nursery has been set up as a joint venture between Mr and Mrs Boggatt and Itchen College. It is jointly managed by both parties.

There are currently 70 children from 3 months to 5 years on roll. There are 5 funded 3 year olds and 4 funded four year olds. The nursery is able to support children with special needs, and those who speak English as an additional language.

The Nursery is open from Monday to Thursday from 0800 to 1700; and on Friday from 0800 to 1600.

There are a total of 5 full-time and 8 part-time staff, plus an office based manager. About 12 staff work with the children each day. Eight staff have relevant early years qualifications, and 1 staff member is working towards National Vocational Qualifications level II.

The Nursery receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership. It is a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

The nursery provides good quality full day care for children under five years.

The nursery has a suitably qualified and experienced staff team who work well together. They provide a caring and stimulating environment for children to thrive in. The premises are welcoming, safe, well maintained and resourced with a good variety of age appropriate toys and equipment. There is relevant documentation, though it needs to be more rigorous. The Nursery Manager offers good leadership in close partnership with Itchen College, although the induction procedures for staff and parents can be further improved.

The staff care for children in a safe and secure manner. They follow good hygiene procedures generally, but they need to obtain further guidance and review procedures relating to the handling of food brought in by parents. The staff are pro-active in supporting parents to meet children's individual needs, including health,

dietary and special requirements. They provide children with regular drinks and healthy snacks.

The staff interact well with children, and promote their learning and development in all areas. The staff provide a broad range of stimulating and age appropriate activities for children, who are happily occupied. They are able to access toys and books easily, and to make independent choices about play. Staff also observe and record children's progress, and plan their learning accordingly.

The staff use positive behaviour management strategies, and are consistent and sensitive when handling the behaviour of children at various stages of development and understanding. The staff value children and respect individual differences, while treating them with equal concern.

The staff team have good positive relationships with parents. Key workers and other staff liaise closely and share information with parents over their children's care and progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The various actions from the last inspection have since been met. Meshes have been put onto the disabled ramp to cover up the gaps. The glass doors have since been removed from the staff room. Black drain covers are now in place. The fire doors have been fitted with hooks so that they can be fixed when open. Some new multi-cultural resources have been purchased or loaned from libraries, including books, dolls, jigsaw puzzles, posters and others. Relevant stationery for incident records has been purchased and available to staff to use. There is now an expanded policy statement on Equal Opportunity, which can still benefit from further updating.

What is being done well?

- The nursery has a well bonded, suitably qualified and experienced staff team. Management is through joint partnership between the Nursery Manager and Itchen College. There is support from the college in personnel, and health and safety matters. The nursery management has shown commitment towards on-going training for staff.
- There is a very good range of age appropriate and accessible toys and books. Children are happily engaged in stimulating activities planned by staff to promote their development. Children can access lots of free play among the permanent play areas such as constructive, home/role play, books, messy/creative and others.
- The staff interact well with children. They talk to them, ask them questions, and help them learn. They also pay attention to meeting individual needs and requirements, such as allergies, special diets and health conditions. There is extra support for children with special needs. They respect children's differences, and treat them with equal concern. There are some good resources/activities to promote positive images of diversity.

- The staff carry out daily premises checks. The college Health and Safety Officer helps with weekly fire alarm checks and on-going risk assessment done jointly. The premises are safe and secure, and the staff supervise children closely.
- Hygiene practices appear to be good generally, and the staff help children to develop the good habit of hand washing. Cot sheets are personalised and washed daily. Toys and equipment are regularly checked and cleaned.
- The staff praise children and encourage good behaviour. They handle a wide range of behaviour in a sensitive and consistent manner, suited to children's level of understanding.
- The staff have good relationships with parents. Key workers (and other staff) observe and record children's progress. They also communicate and liaise closely with parents verbally, and through parents evenings, notices, newsletters, and care diaries.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures relating to food hygiene, such as its safe storage and reheating
- induction procedures, to ensure that new and existing staff and parents have ready access to all relevant information, and in an appropriate format
- documentation which needs updating, including certain nursery policies/procedures and parents' information packs. In addition, procedures for record keeping, such as the daily attendance and medicine records.

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	Review and improve induction procedures for staff and parents, through making all relevant information readily available and ensure that it is in an

	appropriate format.
7	Obtain relevant guidance in order to improve procedures regarding food hygiene, including safe storage and reheating of food.
14	Update documentation, including information for parents; and improve procedures for record keeping, such as the daily attendance and medicine records.

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.