



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 131554

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 25/11/2003
Inspector Name Elly Bik-Kuen Wong

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Regents Park Pre-School
Setting Address Tanners Brook Middle School
Elmes Drive, Regents Park
Southampton
Hampshire
SO15 4PH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Nicola Newnham

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

Regents Park Community Pre-School has been opened since 1989. It operates from two large inter-connected play rooms, each with adjacent toilet facilities, including a disabled toilet, and an enclosed outdoor area, on the site of the Tanners Brook First School. It has close links with the First School and the local community.

There are currently 54 children from 2 to 5 years on roll, and it is the Pre-school's policy not to accept children under the age of 2 years 9 months. There are 19 funded 3 year olds and 14 funded 4 year olds. The pre-school is able to support children with special needs, and those who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school works closely with, and receives support from, the First School. They are able to offer sessions from Monday to Friday during these times: 09:05 to 11:35, and 12:30 to 15:00.

There are a total of four full time and four part time staff, plus one administrative assistant. Four to five staff work with the children each session. Half of the staff have relevant early years qualifications, and the rest are working towards National Vocational Qualifications Level Two. The pre-school receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership. It is a member of the Pre School Learning Alliance and has been awarded its Accreditation.

How good is the Day Care?

The pre-school provides good quality sessional care for children.

The pre-school is a well established community pre-school that has close links with the local feeder primary school and community. It has a suitably trained and experienced staff team who work well together, and take a professional approach to further training. They provide a friendly and interesting environment for children to learn through play. The premises are safe, well maintained and resourced with a good variety of equipment suitable for the ages of children at the Pre-school. There is comprehensive documentation and an effective operational plan, though some paper work needs further updating.

The staff are safety conscious and care for children in a safe and secure manner. There are hygiene procedures in place, though their implementation can be further improved. Staff are pro-active in supporting parents to meet children's health, dietary

and other requirements. Staff provide children with drinks, and offer varied and healthy snacks which are donated by parents.

The staff interact well with children; they talk to them and help them learn. The staff provide a suitable range of interesting activities for children, who are happily occupied. They are able to access toys and books easily, and to make independent choices about play.

The staff use positive behaviour strategies, and handle a wide range of behaviour in a consistent manner. They put emphasis on meeting individual needs. The staff value children and respect individual differences, while treating them with equal concern.

The staff team have good positive relationships with parents. They keep parents well informed of their children's care and progress. They also treat parents with respect through maintaining confidentiality.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There was no action from the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- The staff work well together as a team. They are suitably experienced, and take a professional approach to training by attending short courses on special needs, curriculum planning, child protection, food hygiene and others. More than half of the staff are on training programmes to further improve their professional qualifications in childcare, and the senior staff lead by examples. The paper work is comprehensive, well organised, and available to staff and parents. The staff maintain confidentiality.
- The staff are interested in children and interact closely with them. Children can access and choose from a good variety of age appropriate resources. There are stimulating daily activities and weekly rotated ones: cooking; imaginative role play; computer; play with natural materials; and outdoor planting (weather permitting). There are some good resources and activities to promote positive images of diversity.
- The staff are pro-active in meeting individual needs, dietary and other requirements. They pay attention to children's food and other allergies. They accept children who are in nappies. They respect children's differences, and treat them with equal concern.
- The staff show good safety awareness and have made the premises safe and secure. They carry out daily safety checks and ongoing risk assessment each term.
- The staff praise and value children; they encourage and reward good behaviour. They are patient and consistent when handling a wide range of behaviour, and use methods suited to children's level of understanding.

- The staff have good relationships with parents. They are encouraged to discuss their children's progress regularly with key workers, who observe the children's development on a regular basis, and plan their learning accordingly. Parents are also well informed through parents' handbooks, notices, newsletters, and social events. Parents give support through taking part in the parents rota. They also donate fruits for snacks.

What needs to be improved?

- hygiene procedures and facilities to promote good health and prevent the spread of infection
- documentation relating to parents' handbook; and procedures on complaint, fire emergency and uncollected/lost child.

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
7	Review and improve hygiene procedures and facilities to promote good health and minimise the spread of infection.
14	Review and improve documentation, such as parents' handbook; and procedures relating to complaint, fire emergency, and uncollected / lost child.

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.