



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 507885

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/01/2004
Inspector Name Melissa Cox

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Mortimer Pre-School
Setting Address St. Johns Hall, West End Road
Mortimer Common
Reading
Berkshire
RG7 3TF

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Mortimer Pre-school 287072

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Mortimer Pre-school
Address St Johns Hall, West End Road
Mortimer Common
Reading
Berkshire
RG7 3TF

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

Mortimer Pre-School opened in 1992. It operates from St. Johns Hall in the centre of Mortimer. The group has use of the main hall, kitchen and outside area. The Pre-School serves the local area.

There are currently 24 children from 2 1/2 to 5 years on roll. Children attend a variety of sessions.

The group opens three days a week on a Monday, Thursday and Friday. They are open during school term times only. Sessions are from 9.05am until 11.50am.

Four staff work with the children. Two members of staff are qualified. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership

(E.Y.D.C.P).

The pre school accepts funded children aged three and four years. English as a second language and special needs children are welcomed.

How good is the Day Care?

Mortimer Pre-school provides good quality care for the children. The premises is clean, well maintained and welcoming. However, the heating system does not always enable staff to ensure a constant temperature can be maintained.

There are comprehensive policies available. They are well written, cover all the necessary national standards and have been successfully implemented in the group. The accident sheets contain all the necessary details, however, are stored in such a way that they could be lost or damaged.

Qualified staff, volunteers and students work well as a team to support the children's learning. Children's health and welfare are well promoted with staff encouraging good health routines such as hand washing. The nursery has effective special needs and child protection systems in place. The staff liaise with the relevant professionals to maintain a consistent approach to developing the individual needs of the children. There is a good range of resources and age appropriate activities which promote children's understanding of others and provides positive images of the diversity in

our society. There is a wide variety of activities and resources to choose from.

The children are supported and encouraged in their learning with planned and unplanned activities to meet the developmental needs of children covering all areas of learning. Staff promote equal opportunities by monitoring children's individual needs and by ensuring that all activities and resources are made available to all children.

The staff help the children to understand the rules of the pre-school and behaviour management is positive and effective. The parents support the pre-school and help out in the group on a rota system.

What has improved since the last inspection?

all policies and procedures

attendance register to clearly show times of arrival and departure of the children

emergency consent has been obtained for children who attend group

an incident record system has been developed and implemented.

What is being done well?

- Full training programme for all staff in place covering many of the requirements of the national standards
- A good range of activities available very much enjoyed by the children who were active and involved in their play across all age ranges.
- Adults support children's development and learning by joining in their play making suggestions and questions to extend children understanding.
- All areas of learning covered in the activities provided and a range of opportunities for imaginative play and for children to explore and investigate finding out about their world.
- The nursery is warm and welcoming with displays of children's work, posters and information for the parents.
- A range of toys and resource are made available to meet the needs of all the children and to offer stimulating and enjoyable play opportunities.
- The nursery provides a safe environment for children to play with independence and confidence with staff vigilantly supervising and monitoring children at play. There is a detailed risk assessment process.
- All children have equal access to appropriate toys resources and equipment, they are all included and valued their differences acknowledged and respected.
- Staff work a key worker system and get to know their key children and work with parents to meet the children's individual needs.

- Policies and procedures have been revised to a very high standard

What needs to be improved?

- accident book, to ensure loose pages are not lost
- temperature, to maintain the temperature at an even 18 degrees C or above throughout the session
- first aid box needs to be regularly checked

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
6	Maintain a constant temperature of 18 degrees c and above during session times
7	Replace loose accident sheets with an accident book

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.