



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 143500

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 26/02/2004
Inspector Name Alison Jane Williams

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name MILTON PARK PRE-SCHOOL
Setting Address Eastney Road
Southsea
Hampshire
PO4 8ET

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Milton Park Pre-School 1028156

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Milton Park Pre-School
Address Eastney Road
Southsea
Hampshire
PO4 8ET

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

Milton Park Pre-school is situated in the Milton area of Portsmouth, and has been a registered provision since 1982. It is a registered charity, committee run group. The supervisor is responsible for the management and day-to-day organisation of the provision. The pre-school is based in within Milton Park Junior School and serves children from all surrounding areas. Children have use of two adjacent class rooms and access to the school hall and playground. The pre-school is open term time only, Monday to Friday, from 09.00 until 11.45 and from 12.45 until 15.15. It is the policy of the pre-school to accept children from the age of two years nine months old. At the time of the inspection, 68 children were on the register, including 41 three year olds and 12 four year olds in receipt of funding. The group provides appropriate support for children with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language. At the time of the inspection, ten members of staff were employed to work with the children. Seven members of staff hold relevant early years qualifications and two are working towards a qualification. The group receives support from the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Milton Park Pre-school provides good quality care for children.

The pre-school leader and deputy are suitably qualified and experienced to care for children and have updated their knowledge and understanding in a variety of areas through training courses attended. Thorough procedures for appointing and vetting staff are in place.

Policies and procedures are in place, which underpin the day to day running of the pre-school, and these are conformed to in practice. All relevant documentation is in place and is reviewed and up-date regularly. Space and resources are organised well to meet children's needs effectively. The pre-school provides a warm and welcoming environment for all children, parents and carers and the children are happy, confident and well behaved.

Staff take sound steps to ensure children's safety, and regular risk assessments are undertaken. The pre-school maintains appropriate hygiene practices and procedures and children are encouraged throughout the daily routine to have an awareness of personal hygiene. Children are provided with regular drinks and information is recorded to meet the needs of children with special dietary requirements. Children

are treated as individuals and staff have a positive attitude towards caring for children with special needs Staff have an appropriate understanding of child protection issues and procedures, although the detail of pre-existing injuries is not recorded consistently.

Children take part in a stimulating and varied programme of activities. Children are actively involved in their learning and their understanding is extended through discussion. Suitable procedures are in place for managing children's behaviour.

Partnerships with parents is exceptional. Staff share information daily regarding the children. Parents are kept well informed on children's individual progress and development and the policies and practices of the group.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The organisation of the pre-school is effective. The supervisor is very experienced and has an excellent understanding of her role and responsibilities. There is an outstanding commitment to staff development. Staff are actively involved and supported in identifying their own training needs and attend a broad range of courses and workshops.
- The pre-school provides a bright and attractive, child centred environment. Children's work is valued and displayed throughout the provision together with posters, displays and photographs of special events and celebrations. Space and resources are used imaginatively to create a stimulating, orderly and supportive environment for children. Children are able to move freely and confidently around the wide range of activities available.
- The group provides an excellent range of toys and play materials that support the needs of all children, they are interested, involved and enjoy their play. Staff act as a facilitator to children's play and their understanding is extended through discussion. Children have easy access to most toys, are able to make their own choices of activities, which encourages their independence.
- Children are helped to learn about equality and the diversity of our culture through their play. The pre-school provides resources that reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability. Children are provided with opportunities to learn about a variety of different cultures, festivals and customs, through planned activities and celebrations and are encouraged them to explore themselves, their families and the world around them.
- The pre-school maintains all required records, policies and procedures. Excellent record keeping systems, are well organised, accessible and stored securely to ensure confidentiality. A designated member of staff is responsible for policies and this ensures that all documentation relating to day care activities is regularly reviewed, up-dated and shared with parents.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Staff have good interpersonal skills, which are used to establish effective relationships with parents. They liaise closely with parents and have an ongoing discussion and give daily feedback to ensure individual children's needs are met. The pre-school has good procedures for the settling in of new children. Staff work in partnership with parents with regards to introductory visits, to ensure children are happy and confident, before they are left on their own. Parents are given an introductory leaflet at point of first contact and a parents pack which contains policies, procedures and relevant information about the pre-school at registration. Parents are kept well informed about the provision via parents notice board and regular newsletters and information is shared regarding the policies and practices of the group. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in the group by joining the committee or parents rota and are welcomed into the group to share their knowledge, skills and interests with the children. A very active, supportive parents committee work in partnership with the staff to improve and promote all aspects of the pre-school for the benefit of all children attending.

What needs to be improved?

- the detail in the records of pre-existing injuries.

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
13	Ensure the recording of pre-existing injuries contains appropriate detail

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.