

Office for Standards in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 205279

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	30/06/2003
Inspector Name	Rachel Wyatt

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Clifton upon Teme Early Years Centre
Setting Address	Clifton - on -Teme Nursery Ltd The Village Clifton on Teme Worcs WR6 6DH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Clifton Upon Teme Nursery Limited

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Clifton Upon Teme Nursery Limited
Address	c/o Clifton Upon Teme Early Years Centre The Village, Clifton-on-Teme Worcester Worcestershire WR6 6DH

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

Clifton upon Teme Early Years Centre opened in 1993 having developed from a long established pre-school setting in the village. It operates from its own self-contained building in the grounds of Clifton upon Teme Primary School

There are currently 57 children from 3 months to under 5 years on roll. This includes 10 funded 3 year olds and 12 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Support is available for children who have special needs or who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week for 50 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 07.30 until 18.00.

Thirteen staff work full or part time with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3 and all have a relevant first aid qualification. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership. The centre is managed by members of the local community and is a registered charity. There are close links with the adjacent primary school.

How good is the Day Care?

Clifton upon Teme Early Years Centre provides good care for children. The setting creates a welcoming environment for children and their families through effective use of displays, photographs and examples of the children's work. Children are grouped according to age, and parts of the main room are laid out for different groups of children or for specific activities. Children benefit from the opportunities created during outside play and meal times when different age groups join together.

Children's safety is effectively promoted indoors and the group is proactive about monitoring access to the premises. Whilst outside safety is satisfactory, staff are not always effectively deployed and there are some hazards outside. The group ensures all staff are trained in first aid. The procedures and the care provided when children are unwell minimises risks of cross infection and ensures they are looked after appropriately. However, there are some omissions to medication consents. Children's individual needs are well met as a result of the staff's knowledge of their individual circumstances, and the availability of comprehensive information about their needs. As a result of the setting actively encouraging staff to attend training, adults caring for children have a sound understanding of early years issues. Children enjoy a variety of activities linked to themes. Their physical skills are developing well as good use is made of the outside area where they can climb, explore natural materials such as sand, and use a variety of wheeled toys. Children are encouraged to talk about themselves, their lives and interests and they enjoy opportunities to make choices with easy access to toys, and to be independent during routines and play activities.

Parents are welcomed in the setting; they are encouraged to be involved in various ways and to exchange information about their children. They appreciate the helpful range of information available to them.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were no actions at the last inspection but as a result of an investigation the setting agreed to several actions relating to the training and deployment of staff and maintaining ratios; ensuring attendance records for children and adults were accurate; ensuring the premises were safe and tidy with procedures in place for cleaning toys and equipment, and to develop various procedures and records relating to complaints, fire safety, emergency evacuations, medication, accidents and incidents.

Good progress has been made regarding staff qualifications and a comprehensive training action plan is in place. Staff deployment is satisfactory but during outside play there were short periods when some children were not directly supervised, and at other times the arrangements for caring for particular children inhibited the care for other children.

Safety and tidiness of indoor areas, including storage areas has improved and there are effective procedures for checking and cleaning toys and equipment. Satisfactory procedures are in place for recording the attendance of children and all adults. Fire safety procedures are satisfactory, staff are familiar with them, and a record is kept of fire drills. Accident and incident records are completed appropriately. Whilst a suitable format is available for seeking parents' consents to medication these are sometimes not recorded and the policy on medication does not refer to the requirement for prior written consent.

What is being done well?

- The setting is proactive about encouraging staff to keep up to date with training and all of them have current first aid certificates.
- Children of all ages enjoy outside play and opportunities to develop their physical skills and strength, they enjoy climbing, exploring sand and riding various wheeled vehicles.
- Children are encouraged by staff to talk about themselves, their lives and interests.

- Children's independence skills are effectively supported and developed during routines and activities such as dressing up, toileting, and at meal times.
- A welcoming environment is created for children and their families by the effective use of displays, photographs and paintings with plenty of useful information for parents.
- Children's opportunities to make choices are encouraged as they are able to see what toys are available and to help themselves from low-level storage units.
- Meal times provide opportunities for all children to be together.
- Children's individual needs are effectively met as the setting seeks comprehensive information about them. The majority of staff are knowledgeable about children's circumstances and proactive about meeting their needs. When they are unwell children are well cared for and the setting is proactive about minimising the risks of cross infection.
- Parents are welcomed into the setting. They are encouraged to share their skills and expertise and to exchange information about their child.

What needs to be improved?

- the deployment of staff to ensure there is consistent direct contact with children during outside play, and to ensure that arrangements for caring for particular children does not adversely affect other children's care
- the safety of the outside play house area and rear garden
- the consistency in obtaining parents' prior written consents to medication and the availability of written procedures regarding this requirement
- the availability of procedures to follow if allegations of abuse are made against a member of staff or a volunteer
- the completion of all children's records in ink.

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	Improve the deployment of staff in order to maintain appropriate staffing levels during outside play, and to ensure that the care of particular children does not adversely affect the care of other children.
6	Ensure the rear garden is secure and the play house area is safe.
7	Ensure consistency in obtaining parents' prior written consent to medication and update procedures to include the requirement.
13	Develop the child protection policy to include procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or a volunteer.

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.