



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY273825

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 06/10/2004
Inspector Name Carol Johnstone

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Easton Preschool
Setting Address Nursery Unit c/o St Georges Infant School
Clarence Road
Portland
Dorset
DT5 2BD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Easton Preschool 521442 1023583

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Easton Preschool
Address 32 St. Georges Estate Road
Portland
Dorset
DT5 2AX

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

Easton Preschool opened at the current address in 2003. It operates from one main playroom, with adjoining toilet facilities, in the nursery unit of St Georges Infant School in Portland. It serves the local area.

There are currently 26 children on the register including 16 funded 3 & 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The Preschool supports children who speak English as an additional language and children who have additional needs.

The Preschool opens from 9:00am to 11:45am each morning during term time only.

Five staff work with the children and over half have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from the Sure Start Unit.

How good is the Day Care?

Easton Preschool provides satisfactory care for children. The environment is very welcoming with bright displays of children's paintings, collages and mobiles around the walls. Staff are very friendly and approachable. There is a good range of clean and well maintained toys and equipment suitable for all ages and these are organised in a way to make them easily accessible to children. Documentation is mostly adequate but some areas require attention, relating to the recording of accidents and the complaints procedure.

Children are safe and well cared for, although regular risk assessments are not currently recorded. There are effective measures in place to prevent the risk of cross infection by thorough hand washing after toileting and before snack time. Most staff are trained in first aid and use disposable gloves when attending to children. Snacks provided are healthy, with a range of fruit given each day. Staff knowledge and understanding of the policies and procedures of the Preschool is sometimes inconsistent, this is especially pertinent in the area of child protection, where all staff are required to have a knowledge of the procedures to follow in the event of a concern. The behaviour management and equal opportunities policies also require development with staff, to ensure they are carried out in a consistent way in practice.

Activities are varied and are adapted to suit the abilities of the children. As there is no outdoor play space available, good use is made of the surrounding area and there are regular walks, trips to local parks and outings to see the lighthouse at

Portland Bill. Children are generally settled and comfortable with staff and they approach them with ease.

There are effective relationships with parents and they feel they are kept informed with daily discussion and newsletters that are sent home. Parents feel they can approach staff easily and in confidence with any issues.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- The range of toys is very varied and there are several types of construction toys to help children with fine motor skills and co ordination. There is a range of dressing up clothes that include some familiar roles such as fire fighter, police officer, nurse and doctor and an interesting range of 'home corner' toys for role play.
- Children are encouraged to learn good personal care through washing their hands after the toilet and before snacks. Although they do this independently they are supervised by staff who ensure that a thorough job is done.
- Children are increasing their knowledge of the outside world through the many outings. These are supported with display tables containing leaves, twigs, fir cones and animal pictures and models, children are also encouraged to bring in items for 'Show and tell' each morning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved with the Preschool and are invited to become members of the committee. There are regular committee meetings and all parents are given the minutes of each meeting to keep them informed about any decisions made.

What needs to be improved?

- the consistency of staff knowledge and understanding of the policies and procedures of the Preschool, relating specifically to child protection, equal opportunities and behaviour management
- the documentation relating to the complaints procedure and the recording of accidents
- the regular completion and recording of risk assessments.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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	Ensure that all staff are familiar with the policies and procedures of the provision, specifically relating to child protection, equal opportunities and behaviour management.
6	Conduct and record a regular risk assessment on the premises identifying action(s) to be taken to minimize identified risks
7	Record accidents in a way that ensures confidentiality
12	Include contact details of the regulator (Ofsted) within the complaints procedure for parents.

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.