



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 306345

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 06/08/2003
Inspector Name Jean Evelyn Thomas

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Beechwood Playscheme
Setting Address Fifth Avenue
Prenton
Merseyside
CH43 9LB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name . Wirral Borough Council

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

Beachwood Open Access Playscheme is operated by the Department of Education and Cultural Services. The playscheme is open term time Tuesday to Friday 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday 9:30a.m. to 12:15 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. During the school holidays the service is open Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A maximum of twenty six children aged between 5 and 8 years can attend. Older children are included on the register.

The playscheme is based in Beechwood Play and Community Centre of which they have the sole use. The facilities comprise of the large hall adjacent side room and sports hall. The lounge is available for specific activities. There is an enclosed outside play area at the back of the building. The group also have the use of toilet facilities, an office and a kitchen.

How good is the Day Care?

Beechwood playscheme out of school care provides satisfactory care for children aged 5 to under 8 years.

The premises are welcoming to the children, activities are set out prior to their arrival. There is sufficient equipment and a programme of activities to sustain the interest of the children, although resources need to be provided to promote equality of opportunity. Staff work well as a team and staff are aware of their responsibilities. The action plan developed for staff to achieve the minimum qualification requirements needs to be reviewed to make it attainable. Procedures need to be further developed in line with the National Standards and made available to parents were applicable.

The premises are generally safe, a formal risk assessment is conducted each week, however greater priority needs to be given to implementing the fire safety requirements. A First Aider is on duty at all times. Tuck shop facilities are open throughout the session.

The experience of the manager and deputy enables them to establish consistent and positive relationships with the children attending the open access scheme. Staff ensure all children are included in activities through their direct involvement in the session.

There is a commitment to work in partnership with parents. The information leaflet includes a mission statement to that effect.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The actions which have been addressed from the previous inspection are;
details of the regular members of staff are on site; action plan has been prepared for staff to achieve the required qualifications, however this needs to be reviewed to be achievable; safety issues have been attended to; procedures and consents for outings are in place.

What is being done well?

- the ability of the manager and deputy to develop positive relationships with the children;
- positive interaction between all the staff and the children;
- commitment to work in partnership with parents;
- activities provided sustained the children's interest;
- children were able to choose their own games and make decisions about playing indoors or out;
- secure outdoor play area with safety surface underneath the large apparatus.

What needs to be improved?

- information of all staff and volunteers to be available for inspection and evidence of their clearance;
- procedures pertaining to equal opportunities, child protection, lost child, sick child and the special needs statement to be prepared and made available to all staff, volunteers and parents;
- induction training for all staff and volunteers;
- range of equipment and resources used to reflect positive images of culture, gender and disability;
- systems to record when medicinal products have been administered.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

| Std | Action | Date |
|-----|---|------------|
| 1 | review and implement the action plan detailing how the person in charge and staff will achieve the required qualifications. | 30/11/2003 |
| 1 | ensure systems are in place to evidence that staff and volunteers have been vetted and are able to have unsupervised contact with children. | 30/11/2003 |
| 6 | ensure all fire safety requirements are met. | 09/08/2003 |
| 9 | devise an equal opportunities policy that is consistent with current legislation and guidance. Ensure that this is understood and implemented by all staff and shared with parents | 30/11/2003 |
| 9 | ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice | 30/11/2003 |
| 10 | devise and make available to parents, a written statement on special needs which is consistent with current legislation and guidance. Ensure that this is understood and implemented by all staff | 30/11/2003 |
| 14 | ensure there is a record of names and addresses of all staff and volunteers | 30/11/2003 |
| 14 | devise a system to record any medicinal product administered to children and ensure entries are signed by parents. | 30/11/2003 |
| 14 | prepare a statement of procedure to be followed if a child is lost. | 30/11/2003 |
| 14 | make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint | 30/11/2003 |
| 14 | ensure that the child protection procedure for the out of school care complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures and is made available to parents. | 30/11/2003 |

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

| Std | Recommendation |
|-----|--|
| 2 | ensure an induction programme is provided for all staff and volunteers. |
| 6 | ensure the identified potential hazards in the main hall and adjacent room regarding pieces of wood propped against the wall and trailing wires are secured. |
| 7 | devise a system for parents to sign the record of their child's accident. |
| 7 | prepare a policy about the exclusion of children who are ill or infectious and make available to parents. |
| 11 | ensure all staff and volunteers are aware of the behaviour policy |
| 12 | make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint. |

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.