



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY281409

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	11/11/2004
Inspector Name	Carol Mansell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Creche Day Care
Setting Name	Happy Days Playroom
Setting Address	The Living Room 8 - 10 The Glebe Stevenage Hertfordshire SG2 0DJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of The Living Room 1080634
------	--

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Living Room
Address	8 - 10 The Glebe Stevenage Hertfordshire SG2 0DJ

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

Happy Days Playroom was registered in 2004. It operates from one room in 'The Living Room' which is in Stevenage, Hertfordshire. A maximum of 12 children may attend the crèche at any one time. The crèche is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:15 to 12:10 and 12:50 to 14:45 for 50 weeks of the year.

There are currently 52 children from 3 months to under 8 years on roll. Children attend the crèche whilst their parents use the facilities with in 'The Living Room'.

The crèche employs 4 staff. 3 of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the directors and project leader of the "Living room", and the early years development worker.

How good is the Day Care?

Happy Days Playroom provides satisfactory care for children.

The staff work well together and have a commitment to their own personal development. There is a routine in place that the children know and helps them to feel secure. Space and play resources are organised appropriately to meet most of the needs of the children. The crèche has a range of toys and materials that are clean, attractive and suitable for young children. However, resources to promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice and those suitable for older children need to be extended. Also issues relating to quiet areas for sleep and maintaining the temperature need to be addressed.

There is a written system to identify and minimise risks, which is generally effective. Staff have an awareness of potential hazards and take sensible precautions to keep children safe. However, some guidance relating to Child Protection needs to be updated.

Praise and encouragement is given and staff have a consistent and positive approach when dealing with unacceptable behaviour. Staff plan interesting activities and play to keep children busy and happy while they are in the crèche. However, accessibility needs to be reviewed.

Staff have developed friendly, relaxed relationships with parents. They exchange information daily. Regular written information keeps the parents informed. However,

some recording procedures and consent omissions need to be addressed.

There were 5 children present during this inspection.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable as this is the first inspection since registration.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide a welcoming and safe environment for both children and their parents. They work well together as a team and are enthusiastic in their approach to the children. They are dedicated to undertaking training courses, developing their own learning and practice. Young children enjoy participating in the activities and playing with the available selection of suitable resources.
- There are health and safety policies in place that provide the staff, children and parents with clear guidelines for the promotion of children's health and safety whilst attending the group. Continual risk assessments are used to ensure the safety of the children and premise at all times.
- The staff use the space and resources to provide fun and interesting learning experiences for the children. Staff support the children in a positive way, encouraging them, listening and asking questions to develop their thinking. The children are learning to respect and value each other, and they behave well. Staff use positive strategies to reinforce acceptable behaviours.
- Staff are friendly and approachable and have fostered positive relationships with parents who are welcomed into the crèche. An information pack is available for parents. There is regular feedback given verbally and this is now being extending to include written information. There were positive comments from parents on record.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for recording attendance which maintains confidentiality
- the procedures for obtaining additional parental consents
- accessibility of resources to encourage choice and independence, for older children and to meet equal opportunity requirements
- the availability of relevant up to date Child Protection literature as required in the National Standards
- the availability of a quiet area for individual sleep patterns to be facilitated
- the maintaining of an adequate temperature in all areas of the crèche

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last

inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
4	Ensure all rooms are maintained at an adequate temperature and ensure quiet areas are provided to enable individual sleep patterns to be facilitated
13	Obtain relevant up to date Child Protection literature
14	Obtain parental consent for emergency treatment or assistance and ensure that confidentiality is maintained at all times.
5	Ensure resources are suitably accessible to encourage children's choice and independence (particularly older children) and that they adequately cover the areas of equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice.

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.