



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 310413

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/11/2004
Inspector Name Ann Lee

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Early Days Day Nursery
Setting Address 6 Alexandra Road
Waterloo
Liverpool
Merseyside
L22 1RJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mr Malcom Russell & Mrs Clare Russell 4302672

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Mr Malcom Russell & Mrs Clare Russell
Address Flat 23, Lexington
42 Chorlton Street
Manchester
Lancashire
M1 3HW

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

Early Days Nursery has been open since 1990 and is registered to care for a maximum of 31 children aged 0 to 5 years. The nursery operates from a large Victorian detached house which has been adapted to provide two play rooms and a baby unit. The nursery provides places for several funded three and four year olds.

The nursery opens every week day from 8:00am to 6pm.

The 8 care staff are all fully qualified in child care and the manager is supernumerary so that she can cover in times of staff shortages.

Activity programmes, for the funded children, are based on the 'Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage'.

How good is the Day Care?

Early Days Nursery provides satisfactory care for children aged 0 to 5 years.

The children are well supervised and the premises are well maintained and welcoming. Staff use policies and procedures to help them to provide a safe and healthy environment where the children feel safe and secure.

A good range of toys and equipment is provided which encourage the children to have fun and to learn through play. More toys and materials should be available to provide positive images of different cultures and disability. The staff devise a programme of activities which follows a theme such as 'Autumn' and the children are involved in games, art work, stories and play which helps them to understand the world about them. The pre-school children follow the 'Stepping Stones' to the Foundation Stage which helps them to make progress in all areas of development. The younger children and babies have the opportunity for free play and art work which extends their knowledge and builds their confidence. The babies follow their own routine for feeding and sleeping. All of the children have the opportunity to play in the garden for part of each day. The staff are friendly and approachable and they develop close, affectionate relationships with the children. They play with them, read stories, talk to them and encourage their language skills. There are clear boundaries for behaviour and the staff use praise, encouragement and rewards to help the children to be well behaved, polite and co-operative. The staff respond quickly to the needs of the children and sort out their small disputes with tact and sensitivity.

Relationships with parents are good and they are made welcome in the nursery. They are provided with information about their babies via a daily diaries and progress reports are available for the older children. Some of the policies and procedures and documentation for parents requires updating and amending.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Most of the actions from the previous inspection have been completed as follows: A behaviour management statement is in place, more activities are provided to help children to understand about different cultures although more toys and equipment are still needed. The times of arrival and departure of the children is now recorded but the visitors are not always recorded. There is a written statement on child protection but it still does not include the procedures to be followed if an allegation is made about a member of staff. An equal opportunities policy is now in place.

What is being done well?

- The children are well supervised and the staff follow policies and procedures to ensure that they provide a safe and healthy environment where the children can feel safe and secure.
- A good range of toys and equipment is provided which encourage the children to have fun and to learn through play.
- The pre-school children follow the 'Stepping Stones' to the 'Early Learning Goals' which helps them to make progress in all areas of development.
- The staff are friendly and approachable. They develop close, affectionate relationships with the children, play with them and help them to develop to their full potential.
- The staff use praise and encouragement to help the children to be well behaved, polite and co-operative.
- Relationships with parents are good. They are welcomed into the nursery and provided with information about their children.

What needs to be improved?

- the availability of a procedure which parents can follow if they have a complaint. This should include the address and telephone number of Ofsted
- the statement on child protection so that it includes the procedures to be followed if an allegation is made against a member of staff
- the introduction of a key worker system
- the recording of the times of arrival and departure of visitors
- the provision of more toys and materials which promote equality of opportunity
- the fire log book to ensure that it is available and up to date

- the staff knowledge and understanding of risk assessment

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.)

Since April 2004 there has been one complaint relating to National Standard 7: Health, about an accident which was not recorded and Standard 8: Food and Drink, relating to the dietary needs of the child not being met. Ofsted visited and the provider was asked to investigate the first concern and to review the system of planning and listing menu choices. Appropriate steps have been taken and the provider remains qualified for registration.

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 |
|-----|---|------------|
| 12 | make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint. This should include the address and telephone number of Ofsted. | 31/12/2004 |
| 13 | ensure that the written statement on child protection includes the procedures to be followed if an allegation is made against a member of staff | 31/12/2004 |

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

| Std | Recommendation |
|-----|--|
| 2 | Ensure that due consideration is given to introducing a key worker system in the nursery |
| 2 | Record the dates and times of arrival and departure of all visitors |

| | |
|----|--|
| 5 | Provide a suitable range of toys and materials which promote equality of opportunity |
| 6 | Develop staff knowledge and understanding of risk assessment and ensure that fire drill log book is available and up to date |
| 11 | Ensure that the Behaviour Management statement has reference to bullying |
| 12 | Extend the prospectus for parents so that it includes some of the policies and procedures |

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.