



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253632

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	26/11/2004
Inspector Name	Anne Barnsley

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Bluebird Playgroup
Setting Address	Westfield County Primary School Westbourne Park Bourne Lincolnshire PE10 9QS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Kathleen Megson
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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

The Bluebird Playgroup is privately run and was established approximately 30 years ago. In 1995 the group moved to premises within the grounds of Westfield CP School in the town of Bourne. A maximum of 18 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. The playgroup is open each weekday from 08:45 to 12:00 and from 12:30 until 15:15 during term time. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. There are currently 27 children on roll and the playgroup caters for children who receive nursery education funding. Children come from Bourne and it's surrounding area. The playgroup currently supports children with special educational needs.

The playgroup employs 10 staff. Five of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Bluebird Playgroup provides good quality care for children. The environment is friendly and a routine is maintained that provides children with security. The overall organisation of the group is planned sufficiently well although there are some weaknesses in the organisation of some records.

Staff have a good awareness of safety issues and implement effective measures that ensure the safety of children, staff and visitors. Staff promote good health and encourage children to learn about positive hygiene practices. Procedures are in place for notifying parents if children become sick and parents have access to a policy that provides information about infectious illnesses. Children have breaks with drinks and snacks and eat in family groups with their key workers. The playgroup operates an equal opportunities policy and promotes positive images of our society. One member of staff has undertaken special needs training and good staffing ratios enable staff to work on a one to one basis if it is considered to be in the best interest of a child. One member of staff has completed child protection training.

Staff plan a broad and varied programme of learning and maintain a daily routine that children are familiar with. Children are able to plan for themselves and organise how they wish to spend their time within this routine. Children can self select resources and there is good adult support for challenging activities. Children are grouped into key groups and work closely with consistent staff. Staff have high expectations regarding children's behaviour and manage this effectively.

There is an effective partnership with parents. Parents are kept well informed and are encouraged to discuss any issues at any time.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider agreed to:

Appoint an appropriately qualified person in charge, devise an operational plan, ensure that children belong to a key group which has consistent staff, ensure that there are operational procedures for outings and trips, devise a policy about the exclusion of children who are ill or infectious and discuss with parents, make reference to bullying in the behaviour management policy, revise the complaints procedure to reflect the current regulator, appoint and train a designated person for child protection.

A member of staff has completed NVQ training and has been appointed as the person in day to day charge.

An operational plan has been devised and is available to parents. Children have been grouped into key groups and work with consistent members of staff. Outings off the premises do not take place although a procedure has been written for short trips around the school grounds. A policy about illness and infectious illnesses has been written and is available to parents. Reference to bullying has been added to the behaviour management policy. The complaints procedure has been amended and now records the contact for the regulator. A member of staff has completed child protection training and has been appointed as the designated person in charge.

The above recommendations have been implemented satisfactorily to ensure the safety of children.

What is being done well?

- The playgroup is warm and friendly and provides children with a relaxed and secure environment.
- Staff plan activities and encourage all children to participate if they wish, often repeating activities to ensure that all children have the opportunity to do so throughout the week. Resources are stored in child height units which enables them to self select and plan for themselves.
- Children with special educational needs have good support and sound knowledge and positive practice is shared with staff.
- Children are taught about safety, health and hygiene through good example and support.
- Positive relationships exist with parents, the majority of whom verified this by letter or questionnaire. Parents feel well informed about their child's care and happy with the progress their child is making.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures, by ensuring there is a procedure to be followed in the event of a child being lost
- records, by ensuring that written requests to administer medicines are obtained from parents prior to administering and that these are retained with children's records and by maintaining a record of existing injuries
- fire safety records by including more detailed information about the fire drill.

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	Ensure there is a procedure to be followed in the event of a child being lost.
6	Further develop fire drill records to ensure that all relevant information is recorded.
7	Ensure that written requests to administer medicines are obtained from parents prior to administering and are retained with children's records and maintain a record of existing injuries.

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.