

Office for Standards in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 227022

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	15/07/2003
Inspector Name	Judith Chinnery

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	St Andrew's Play Association
Setting Address	111 Walnut Street Leicester Leicestershire LE2 7LA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

Stephen Ashley

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

St. Andrews Play Association has been registered for over five years. It operates from the Playhouse on the local park just off Walnut Street, close to the Leicester Royal Infirmary. Children attend from the areas close by, which includes the St. Andrews Estate and the Bede Island area.

The project is an open access facility, offering thirty places to children aged five to thirteen years. It supports children who have special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The project opens five days a week during term times, from 15:15 hrs until 19:15 hrs and during the Easter and Summer breaks from 11:00 hrs until 15:00 hrs.

There are eight members of staff working with the children, two of whom have play work qualifications, while two others are on relevant training programmes.

How good is the Day Care?

St. Andrews Play Association provides good quality care for children. The team of staff work well together. They know the children well and share good relationships with them. They organise and supervise the available space effectively to allow children to play freely. The Playhouse building is welcoming to children, with examples of their work displayed on the walls. Resources and equipment are appropriate for differing ages of children. Staff provide a well planned range of activities, which promote children's learning in all areas. Records are maintained effectively for the safe and efficient running of the setting.

Staff have a good awareness of safety and take proper precautions to prevent accidents. Security arrangements are good, with staff challenging unwanted visitors. There are effective measures in place to prevent the spread of infection and to deal with injuries, although procedures to seek emergency medical treatment and to administer medication are as yet not sanctioned by parents. Drinks are regularly available and good information is given to parents about the provision of packed lunches. Staff actively promote equality of opportunity, particularly in art and sport. They have effective measures in place to support children with special needs. Staff have a good awareness of local authority child protection procedures.

Play opportunities are stimulating and challenging, and encourage children to

develop a variety of skills, for example in early maths, language, imagination and creativity. Staff have good, well thought out methods for managing children's behaviour. A system of warnings is clearly understood by the staff and the children.

Staff are committed to working in partnership with parents. They are provided with excellent information about the setting, which clearly explains the open access nature of the provision.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting was asked to improve aspects of safety. Since then they have implemented regular fire drills, ensured there is at least one first aider available at all times, ensured that the fire door closes properly and followed up getting a small uneven area made safe.

They were also asked to improve some policies and procedures. Since then they have developed and implemented effective policies and procedures for children lost or not collected, special needs, child protection and complaints.

The setting was required to improve some aspects of staffing procedures and their gaining of relevant qualifications. The management committee now have a nominated person and have completed the necessary paperwork for vetting. The person-in-charge does have a suitable qualification and an effective induction for new staff has been implemented.

All improvements made have served to increase the quality of safety and care for children attending.

What is being done well?

- Staff organise and supervise the available space well to allow children to play freely.
- Play opportunities are stimulating and challenging and children are encouraged to develop good skills in early maths, language, imagination and creativity.
- Staff have a good awareness of safety and have effective measures in place to manage security.
- The partnership with parents is promoted well, with excellent information about the setting being provided.

What needs to be improved?

• the arrangements and written permission for administering medication and to seek emergency medical treatment.

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
	Obtain parents' written consent to administer medication and keep a record of any medication administered to the children.
	Obtain written permission from parents for the seeking of emergency medical treatment or advice.

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.