



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 115340

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/01/2005  
Inspector Name Lara Hickson

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Blendon Pre-school  
Setting Address St James The Great Church Hall  
Bladindon Drive  
Bexley  
Kent  
DA5 3BS

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Management Committee of Blendon  
Pre-school

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Management Committee of Blendon Pre-school  
Address St James The Great Church Hall  
Bladindon Drive  
Bexley  
Kent  
DA5 3BS

## 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

Blendon Pre-School opened in 1969. It moved to its present location at St James the Great Church Hall In Bexley in May 2000. The committee run Pre-School is well established within the local community and serves families from the surrounding residential area.

Blendon Pre-School is open on a sessional basis; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9.15 to 12.00 noon, and Wednesday afternoon from 12.30 to 14.30, term time only.

The Pre-School takes children from 2 years and 9 months to 5 years, and is registered for 24 children, of whom no more than 4 may be under 3 years. Two children aged 4 years and 13 children aged 3 years receive funding. Currently the pre-school does not have any children attending who have English as an additional language or any with special educational needs.

The setting receives support from an advisory teacher and Bexley Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

The staff team have worked together for a number of years. Three members of staff hold early years qualifications and 4 members of staff have early years experience. The staff team has an excellent attitude towards on-going training and development and has completed an extensive range of additional courses and workshops.

### How good is the Day Care?

Blendon Pre-school provides good quality care for children. The staff work well together as a team. Effective induction procedures and regular staff meetings ensure that staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities and can develop as individuals.

The pre-school offers a safe, welcoming environment where children are happy and confident. Staff take positive steps to promote health and safety within the pre-school and children are encouraged to learn about personal hygiene issues through the daily routine. The free flow session allows children to self select from the wide range of stimulating play opportunities available, promoting independence and self choice. The selection of resources available includes positive images of race, culture, disability and gender. The hall is set out with defined areas of learning.

Excellent team work and staff deployment ensures that children are well supervised, supported and encouraged in their play and learning. Written observations are made on the children's progress and are used to plan the subsequent stages of the children's learning and play opportunities. The format of some parts of the session can be a little chaotic and need further development.

Staff use positive behaviour strategies according to the individual age and understanding of the child, but as there are no pre-set rules regarding acceptable behaviour, some inconsistencies in behaviour management occur. The staff team works hard to create a warm, welcoming environment for children and their parent/carers. Parents are provided with comprehensive written information about the setting and staff share information on a daily basis. Children were observed enjoying their play and sufficient challenges were available for the older or more capable children.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Effective recruitment procedures are in place. The pre-school has a new Deputy, Deborah Ruler who has completed a Level 3 qualification. Ofsted was informed of this change by the Manager, Janet Simpson. Risk assessments are carried out and records kept in policy folders. Clear plans identify how the needs of the three and four-year-olds are met. A written complaints procedure forms part of the Policy documents and includes details for Ofsted.

Play provision seen was suitable for the age and stage of the children attending and included a selection promoting equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice. The staff team has developed a knowledge of equal opportunities issues and demonstrated a good understanding of promoting non-stereotypical play. Separate, more challenging activities are planned for the older and more capable children.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Staff deployment is very good. A key worker system is in operation and ensures that individual needs are met. Staff use recorded observations to plan subsequent steps in children's play opportunities, learning and development.
- Very close relationships were observed between the staff and children. Staff support children in their play, extend their learning opportunities and reinforce social skills and good manners.
- An extensive range of activities and play opportunities allow children to develop in all areas of the curriculum. Children were observed to be enjoying, interested and involved in their play.
- High priority is given to health and safety issues. Staff are vigilant to ensure safety of all areas is maintained and there are effective systems in place for the safe arrival and collection of children.
- Partnership with parents is good. Staff have a friendly, welcoming approach

to the children and their families. Information is regularly shared with parents through newsletters, notice boards and informal feedback at the end of each session.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the the format of some areas of the pre-school session to ensure that children's needs are being met
- staff's consistency with regards to behaviour management.

#### **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	Develop the end of the pre-school session to ensure that individual needs and learning opportunities are being met.
11	Develop staff's awareness and understanding of the importance of a consistent approach when managing children's behaviour.

## **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.*