



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 219934

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/08/2003
Inspector Name Rachael Mankiewicz

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Caring Kindergartens Ltd (Daventry)
Setting Address Arnex House, London Road
Daventry
Northamptonshire
NN11 4DS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Caring Kindergartens Ltd. 2928135

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Caring Kindergartens Ltd.
Address The Poplars
High Street, Pitsford
Northampton
Northamptonshire
NN6 9AD

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

Caring Kindergarten Day Nursery opened in 1999 at Arnex House, off the London Road, in Daventry. It is one of a number of nurseries under the same ownership. Arnex House is a large building with a car park area to the front of the building and secure outdoor play areas to the front and each side.

The ground floor area is occupied by the youngest children who are grouped according to age. The under two-year-olds are in an area that is self-contained with a kitchen, a dining area, laundry, bathrooms, nappy changing area, sleep room and play areas. The two to three year olds occupy another area downstairs with their own facilities. The main kitchen, dining area and nursery office are also situated on the ground floor. The older children are situated in the rooms on the first floor with their own facilities, although they use some areas on the ground floor including the craft area and dining room.

The nursery uses in-house and external training programmes, and 80% of staff have relevant early years qualifications at Level 2 or 3, or are working towards these. The nursery works alongside the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership to provide places for children aged three and four years who can receive Nursery Education Grant Funding.

The Nursery is registered for 90 children under five years, with a maximum of 36 children under two years. Opening times are from 08:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday, all year round. The nursery provides both full and part-day care.

How good is the Day Care?

Caring Kindergarten Day Nursery (Daventry) offers good quality care for children. The nursery provides a caring and stimulating environment where children are safe and can learn through play. This includes both indoor and outdoor activities. The management and staff have a good awareness of safety issues. They support the children in their understanding of how to keep themselves safe and staff also promote good hygiene practices.

The children benefit from the planning of daily routines. Good organisation allows the staff to spend individual time with the children, to support their specific needs, and encourage their interests. A wide range of activities and resources for children of differing ages and stages of development are provided. The resources include

positive images of gender, cultural and religious diversity and disability, although more of these are provided in the pre-school room than elsewhere in the nursery.

The day-to-day running of the nursery is based on a comprehensive operational plan. Record keeping is of a generally good standard. The management ensures that the staff's personal development is seen as important, and 80% of staff have relevant early years qualifications at level 2 or 3 or are working towards gaining a relevant qualification. Some of the staff are less aware of child protection issues than others.

The relationship with parents is very good, parents receive regular formal information and information is also shared informally on a daily basis. This includes a prospectus and a series of information booklets produced by the nursery group's management. There is a key worker system in place, with a member of staff taking responsibility for a small group of children. These staff provide parents with regular updates about their children's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were no issues to be addressed as a result of the previous inspection.

What is being done well?

- The staff:child ratios are very good, and staff are deployed well in the extensive indoor and outdoor space to ensure children are well supervised and individual needs can be provided for.
- The children benefit from the excellent range of activities and resources for children of differing ages and stages of development both indoors and outside.
- The management and staff have a good awareness of safety issues that ensures the children are safe and secure when indoors and outside. Security is good, and risk assessments of new activities and outings are routinely carried out.
- Health and hygiene practices are good. Children are encouraged to think about health and hygiene, for example, healthy eating and washing hands.
- Staff have a good knowledge, backed by experience, of caring for the needs of all children, including children with special needs. Staff have time for individual children and support their personal interests.
- The management team of both this nursery and the group of nursery's are well organised and committed to providing quality care. There is a strong commitment to training/staff development and improving on good practice.
- Parents are encouraged to work in partnership with the nursery to benefit the children. Staff know the parents well and make them feel welcome. Some parents have chosen to become involved with the nursery by for example, providing story bags.

What needs to be improved?

- the range of resources which promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice to be developed throughout the nursery;
- staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues to be developed further.

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
4	ensure that the nursery operates within local planning and building control requirements in relation to the increase in the number of children cared for.
9	further development of resources which promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice throughout the nursery and not just in the pre-school room.
13	develop further staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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.