



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 508437

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/04/2004
Inspector Name Elaine Marie McDonnell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name East/West Children Centre
Setting Address Abingdon Road
Middlesbrough
Cleveland
TS1 3JR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name East/West Children Centre

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name East/West Children Centre
Address East/West Children Centre
Abingdon Road
Middlesbrough
Cleveland
TS1 3JR

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

East West Children's Centre has been registered since February 2001. It operates from a purpose built setting adjoining Abingdon Road Primary School in the centre of Middlesbrough. The children's centre serves the local multi-cultural community and students with bi-lingual skills work at the setting. During term-time children from the centre can have a two course lunch in the primary school canteen accompanied by staff, there are also facilities in place for children to bring packed lunches. The children's centre offers full day care to children from two to eight years, there are currently 60 children from two to four years on roll. The setting is in receipt of education grants and there are four funded three year olds and fifteen funded four year olds currently on roll. Many of the children attending speak English as an additional language and the setting supports children with special educational needs. The children's centre operates five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 9:00 to 11:30, a lunchtime session of 11:30 to 12:30 and 12:30 to 15:00. Six members of staff are employed, most have a childcare qualification, all staff have access to ongoing training and development programmes.

In October 2001 the registration of the Sure Start crèche combined with that of the Children's Centre. The crèche operates from an additional room within the centre, the bathroom and outdoor play areas are shared. The crèche operates as and when required and sessions are usually two hours in length. Two multi purpose rooms are also registered should extra space be required to care for children when training courses etc are provided.

How good is the Day Care?

East West Children's Centre provides good quality care for children. Most staff have a childcare qualification and have access to ongoing training and development. Most staff have a food hygiene certificate and a first aid certificate. Vetting procedures for some staff are currently not effective. Good use is made of available space, resources and staff. Children are grouped appropriately, under two year olds are cared for in the crèche. The environment is very warm and welcoming, children's work is attractively displayed and the current theme is very obvious throughout the setting. Resources are well maintained, stimulating, challenging and are accessible for the children. All documentation required for the efficient and safe management of the provision is available and up to date.

Staff are deployed effectively and are vigilant about children's safety, however the

outdoor play area is not fully secure. Staff practice and promote good hygiene practises, which children have developed. Staff act in the best interests of all the children with regards to illness. Children receive nutritious and varied meals and snacks and meal times are relaxed and social occasions. All children are included and valued, and their needs are met. Staff are very understanding, caring and supportive of the individual needs of children and families. The provision works closely with parents and other professionals to assess and meet the individual needs of the children.

Children have easy access to a wide range of activities that promote learning in all areas of development. Staff observe and record what children do and use this information to inform the next stage of play and learning. Staff value and promote positive behaviour and as a result children's behaviour is good, they relate well to each other and to staff.

Parents are kept informed of their child's development and progress through regular discussion.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection a person with a level three qualification has been employed to manage the setting, however at the time of the visit she was on maternity leave. The new deputy manager who is currently in charge, has a level three qualification.

What is being done well?

- Children are involved in a broad range of activities that promote learning in all areas of development.
- The environment is very warm and welcoming, children's work is attractively displayed.
- Good hygiene procedures are practiced by children and staff.
- Children receive healthy and nutritious meals and snacks and eating times are relaxed, social occasions.
- All children are included and valued and staff are very understanding, caring and supportive of the individual needs of children and families.
- Children's behaviour is good, they relate well to each other and to staff.

What needs to be improved?

- the effectiveness of procedures for vetting new members of staff
- the security of the outdoor play area.

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
1	Improve the effectiveness of procedures for vetting new members of staff.
6	Ensure that the outdoor play area is secure.

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.