



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 142796

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	07/05/2003
Inspector Name	Jacqueline Allen

### SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	First Steps Day Nursery
Setting Address	44 Compton Road Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 5QT

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Elaine Garland
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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.

<b>Information about the setting</b>
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First Steps Day Nursery is based in a large detached house in Shepton Mallett. It is open from 8am to 6pm and is registered for 46 children under 8 years of whom 12 can be under 2 years. Non-mobile babies are cared for on the first floor and are moved downstairs into the toddler room as appropriate. The main nursery is on the ground floor and caters for children from 2 years until entry into the pre-school. An additional building in the grounds of the house caters for children from 3 to 5 years in a pre-school environment between approx 9am and 4pm and a before and after school provision for children aged 4 to 8 years. The nursery accepts funded 3 and 4 year olds and provides for children with special needs. There are currently no children with English as an additional language. More than half of the staff have Level 3 early years qualifications and they are supported by the EYDCP.
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<b>How good is the Day Care?</b>
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First Steps Day Nursery provides satisfactory care for children. Over half the staff are suitably qualified and the children are grouped appropriately to meet their needs. Most health and safety issues have been resolved and there is an effective system for the safe collection of children. A good range of toys and equipment helps to create a stimulating environment in clean and well maintained premises. The staff are aware of children's individual dietary needs and drinks are mainly freely available. The nursery is supportive to families and children with special needs. Some consistency is needed in the management of children's behaviour. Staff are keen to keep parents updated on their child's progress and regular meetings and noticeboards help keep parents informed. Some written records need attention.
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<b>What has improved since the last inspection?</b>
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At the last inspection the provider agreed to update the special needs statement, obtain a copy of the Code of Practice, make safe the garden, devise an operational plan and ensure a first aid kit is accessible in both buildings. The special needs statement has been updated, a copy of the Code of Practice has been obtained, an operational plan is in place, first aid kits are available in each of the rooms and the garden is now safely enclosed and suitable for children's use.
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<b>What is being done well?</b>
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Provider has good understanding of the need for effective procedures for appointing and vetting staff. (Std 1) Effective grouping of children and the smooth transition from one area to another. (Std 2) Good range of toys and equipment to create a good learning environment for the children (Std 5) Effective systems to support children with special needs and protect children from illness. (Std 10)

**What needs to be improved?**

registration systems for children and visitors need to include times (Std 2) nappy changing facilities in nursery need to be improved (Std 4) electrical sockets need to be made safe in pre-school (Std 6) records for accidents and administering medication in nursery need to be accurate (Std 7) hand washing in nursery needs to be effective (Std 7) drinks need to be offered frequently to toddlers (Std 8) children's behaviour needs to be managed consistently (Std 11) child protection statement needs to include procedures for allegations made against staff (Std 14)

**Outcome of the inspection**

Satisfactory

**WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**

**The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
14	ensure child protection statement includes procedures to be followed in the event of allegations of abuse made against staff	30/06/2003

**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	ensure registration systems show times when children and visitors are present and are accurately maintained.
6	ensure electrical sockets are made safe or inaccessible
7	ensure handwashing procedures comply with Environmental Health requirements.
7	ensure accurate recording of accidents and administration of medication
11	ensure behaviour management is applied consistently by all staff in line with agreed procedures.

## **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.*