



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY290000

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/02/2005
Inspector Name Andrea, Marie Paulson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Cottam Holiday Club
Setting Address Cottam CP School
Haydocks Lane, Cottam
Preston
Lancashire
PR4 0NY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Discovery Vine Ltd 4461945

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Discovery Vine Ltd
Address 14 Dukes Meadow
Ingol
Preston
Lancashire
PR2 7AR

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

Cottam Holiday Club opened in 2001 and operates from the school hall and 2 adjacent classrooms in Cottam Primary School, Cottam, Preston. The school is situated in a residential area close to local shops and Preston town centre.

The Club opens five days a week during school holidays from 08:30 until 17:45.

The Club is one of facilities organised by Discovery Vine Ltd, which operates Out of School Care centres to the north of Preston. The company employs staff who can work at the different venues, most of whom are qualified.

There are currently 56 children on the roll for this venue during the February half-term.

How good is the Day Care?

Cottam Holiday Club provides good quality care for the children.

The premises are bright, welcoming and well-maintained. The main hall is organised well to provide an extensive range of interesting play areas for all the children to benefit from. The children are able to move easily between the activities and choose from the plentiful and accessible, good quality equipment. The children are able to enjoy playing in a stimulating environment. Staff are deployed well so that the children are effectively supervised at all times. They work closely as a team so that the children enjoy well organised sessions as they become familiar with the routine. The record keeping is thorough and well organised.

The Club maintains good standards of safety and security to protect the children. Good safety and health practices are followed so that the children are cared for in a safe environment. The staff members are mostly qualified and have a good mix of experience. They have sound knowledge of child care issues so that the children receive appropriate care.

The interesting range of activities are well planned and based on the age range of the children attending the Club. The children are well occupied with imaginative play opportunities, so that they are having fun as they play. The interaction between the staff and children is positive, with much humour within a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The children are well behaved and respond well to the Club ground rules.

The Club has several ways to share information with parents, including newsletters, parents' information pack, informal discussion, and the required details recorded. The policies are comprehensive, useful and clear.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, some safety measures related to the playfield, glass panels, and Fire Exit signs. These are completed so that the safety of the children is further improved. Records regarding the vehicles and the policy on Behaviour Management also needed updating, which has now been achieved.

What is being done well?

- The children enjoy imaginative activities based on themes such as 'Silly Week', which allows them to have fun, while developing their imagination, creativity, self-confidence and self-expression.
- The premises are organised well to arrange the hall into play areas where children have easy access to the book corner, art/craft, floor play, construction, dressing up, jig-saws, box games, train and road tracks. Resources are rotated between the venues so that the children have an extended range of activities.
- The staff are sensitive to the individual needs of the children, such as leaving unfinished jigsaws out so that children can return to finish them.
- Staff are well deployed throughout the session, so that the children are continuously supervised and kept safe, both indoor and outdoor.
- The policies are comprehensive, up to date, very clear to read, and provide an effective way of sharing information with parents, along with the parents' pack.
- Effective safety practices are carried out including risk assessments, keeping tables and floor clean, constant supervision of children. Fire practices are also carried out and appropriate behaviour encouraged such as sitting safely and not running indoors.

What needs to be improved?

- the displaying of Fire Evacuation notices
- information regarding all the staff available to work at the Discovery Vine venues

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report from 1st April 2004

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	provide a complete staff list for the Discovery Vine venues, also stating those who are qualified
6	ensure that Fire Evacuation notices are displayed in the play areas

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.