



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305306

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/10/2004
Inspector Name Rachel Ruth Britten

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Somerford Kindergarten
Setting Address Quinta School Grounds
Ullswater Road
Congleton
Cheshire
CW12 4LX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Somerford Kindergarten 5076348 1104267

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Somerford Kindergarten
Address Quinta Primary School
Ullswater Road
Congleton
Cheshire
CW12 4LX

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

Somerford Kindergarten has been registered to provide sessional care since 1982. It is registered to care for a maximum of 24 children aged between two and a half and five years. The facility is open 09.15-11.45am and 12.30-15.00pm, Monday to Friday, term time only and caters for children from the immediate locality and local rural area.

There are currently 52 children on roll with 13 three-year-olds and 12 four-year-olds who are in receipt of funding. Most of them attend for five sessions each week. Children who have been identified as having special educational needs are supported. There are no children for whom English is an additional language.

The Pre-school owns the premises within the grounds of Quinta County Primary School, Congleton and is managed by Somerford Kindergarten Committee which is the registered provider. It is a limited company with charitable status and is a member of the Preschool Learning Alliance.

The premises are a pre-fabricated mobile classroom building with two playrooms, kitchen, toilets, storage areas and an outdoor play area.

There are 11 members of staff, of whom 9 hold a recognised childcare qualification, with 1 member of staff currently undertaking training. The staff in the pre-school have established many positive links with the reception teachers in the school and access support from an early years advisory teacher through the EYDCP.

How good is the Day Care?

Overall the quality of the sessional day care is judged to be good.

The organisation of the care is good, with registration, planning, staff files and accident/medication/incident recording systems working well. However, consent relating to emergency treatment should be obtained from parents and minor amendments made to the complaints and child protection policies.

The environment and resources are particularly well organised, making the two activity rooms attractive, safe, welcoming and stimulating. Resources are ample, safe and carefully used to promote children's learning by staff who are well organised and properly deployed.

The safety and care of children is generally good, with provision of healthy snacks and drinks; vigilance about safety in the setting; regular fire drills; and a thorough maintenance program.

Children with special needs are well catered for in the sensitively set out environment, with good links to helping agencies where appropriate.

Personal hygiene and independence are taught and staff knowledge about child protection is adequate.

The quality of the activities is good, using well planned, interesting activities and high levels of staff input to promote children's enjoyment and development.

Staff talk, discuss, question and teach children, whilst promoting their independence, so that they behave well and develop their social skills.

Key worker systems and commitment of staff help to ensure that each individual child's needs are met.

Partnership with parents is good because a range of ways are used to involve parents with the activities of the setting, so that the child's learning is shared.

Returned questionnaires indicate parents' satisfaction with the caring, patient staff who encourage children's independence and manners.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Six actions were raised at the Transitional Inspection in November 2002. These all relate to policies and procedures required by the National Standards and have been completed as follows:

procedures to be followed should a parent fail to collect a child have been agreed;

records about accidents are now all recorded individually to maintain confidentiality;

strategies for dealing with bullying have been added to the policy;

an incident recording system has been evolved and is used;

the complaints policy contains the Ofsted address, but needs the phone number to be added;

and the policy document contains procedures for dealing with allegations against members of staff.

These actions help to keep children safe and make procedures both comprehensive and confidential.

What is being done well?

- The planning of activities, which is comprehensive, closely followed and provides an interesting range of opportunities for children to learn, particularly by gaining knowledge and understanding of their world.
- The organisation of the setting and the resources within it, so that the environment is welcoming, exciting, accessible and stimulating to all children, including those with special needs, so that they want to play and experience what is offered.
- The input of the staff, who are experienced, motivated and well deployed to talk, question, discuss, teach and encourage children to learn and behave well.
- The healthy and nutritious snacks provided and the attention to meeting special dietary requirements in an inclusive way, so that all children have their individual needs met and are learning good eating habits.
- The partnership with parents, linking home to pre-school by the use of the holiday feedback form; the interest table; the "travelling panda" and his diary; and the home link for learning on the planning each week.

What needs to be improved?

- the policies, so that the complaints policy and the child protection policy include all the detail required
- the enrolment details, so that parent consent is obtained at the time of placement, to the obtaining of any necessary emergency medical treatment or advice in the future.

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
7	Ensure that written parental permission is obtained at the time of

	placement to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical treatment in the future.
12	Ensure that your complaints policy contains the Ofsted telephone number and makes clear that the regulating body is Ofsted.
13	Ensure that your child protection policy contains contact numbers for the local police and social services and is made readily available to parents.

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.