



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY248371

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	21/01/2005
Inspector Name	Sheila Iwaskow

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St George's Playgroup
Setting Address	St Georges Bicentennial Hall Church Walk Altrincham Cheshire

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St Georges Playgroup
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St Georges Playgroup
Address	St Georges Bicentennial Hall Church Walk Altrincham

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

St George's playgroup was re-registered 2003 to provide care for children in the local community. The playgroup is open from 09:30 to 12:00, every weekday, except Wednesday, term time only.

Children attending the playgroup have access to the hall, crèche room and toilet facilities. There is a secure area for outdoor play.

There are currently 36 children on roll who attend on a variety of placements; of those 1 receives funding for nursery education. The setting supports children with special educational needs.

The nursery employs three staff. Two employees hold an appropriate early years qualification to NVQ level 3 and another member of staff holds an NVQ level 2. The provision receives support from the Early Years Development Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

St George's playgroup provides good quality care for children. Staff are consistent, suitably qualified and deployed effectively to maintain staff ratios. Children share warm relationships with staff, who work effectively as a team to ensure they create a happy, secure and stimulating environment for children to play and learn. Space is well organised to provide children with a variety of experiences. There is a wide range of resources to meet the needs of all the children who attend the setting. Relevant documentation is in place and organised to respect confidentiality, however there is a minor omission to detail.

The premises are appropriately maintained and safe. Staff encourage children to adopt good hygiene practices by encouraging them to wash hands at appropriate times of the day; after going to the toilet and painting activities. Healthy and nutritious snacks support children's physical development and all dietary needs are discussed with parents, recorded and respected at all times. Staff have a clear understanding of policies and procedures relating to child protection. Children with special needs are fully integrated into the playgroup.

Children are engaged in a range of age appropriate activities which they find challenging and fun. Staff support children in their play, they have a clear understanding of children's individual needs and meet these effectively throughout

the session. Behaviour is managed in a positive and skilful manner; children respond and behave well.

Positive relationships have been formed with parents. Good quality information, including a range of comprehensive policies, is available for parents. Systems are in place to keep parents informed about the playgroup and their child's development. Ofsted questionnaires indicate that parents have the highest regard for setting, the activities available and levels of care afforded to their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not Applicable.

What is being done well?

- The physical environment is warm and welcoming for both parents and children. A range of children's artwork is attractively displayed, celebrating children's efforts and achievements. Children play happily in comfortable surroundings.
- Staff have a positive and consistent approach to manage behaviour. They handle minor incidents in a calm and positive manner. For example, a member of staff explains to a child why he must not use a toothbrush that does not belong to him. Children are encouraged to share, take turns and be kind to each other. Good behaviour, children efforts and achievements are recognised and celebrated, promoting children's confidence and self esteem. Children proudly display their work on a "home table" for others, including parents, to see.
- Close attention is paid to safety. Risk assessments are carried out on a regular basis, ensuring that children are cared for in a safe and secure environment.
- Children have access to a variety of play materials which encompass all areas of their development. Resources are in good condition and include a range, which promotes positive images of race, gender and culture, raising children's awareness of our diverse society. Cultural festivals, such as Chinese New Year, are celebrated throughout the year to heighten children's awareness further.
- Staff demonstrate a good understanding of children's individual and developmental needs. There is a good balance of child initiated and adult led activities which are well planned. Regular assessments provide parents and staff with valuable information about children's development. Staff play and interact with the children, talking, listening and responding to them in a positive manner. Language, scientific and mathematical concepts are promoted as children play. For example, staff explain why ice cubes melt, encourage children to retell familiar stories, match large and small bears and identify colours.

What needs to be improved?

- the documentation with regard to the attendance register.

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.

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
14	Ensure times of children's times of arrival and departure from the setting are accurately recorded.

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.