



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 306514

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	12/01/2005
Inspector Name	Ron Goldsmith

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Creche Day Care
Setting Name	Unilever Research Crèche
Setting Address	Unilever Ltd Quarry Road East, Bebington Wirral Merseyside CH63 3JW

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Unilever Research and Development 29140
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Unilever Research and Development
Address	Research Laboratory, Quarry Road East Bebington Wirral Merseyside CH63 3JW

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

The Unilever Research Crèche operates from a purpose built ground floor building adjacent to the Unilever Research building in Bebington. It consists of a playroom, kitchen, two children's toilets, staff toilet, office and an enclosed outdoor play area.

There is car parking available for parents/visitors.

The crèche has 18 places and provides care for children from 6 weeks to 8 years.

How good is the Day Care?

Unilever Research Crèche provides good quality care for children.

Staff qualifications are above the required fifty percent. They are enthusiastic and committed to further training to enhance existing good practice and children's learning. Staff/child ratios are good, which enables children to receive appropriate support and encouragement during each session. The environment offers a warm and welcoming atmosphere where children feel valued. Space is used well, with suitable equipment and furniture provided. All documentation is in place and well maintained.

There are well managed, clear routines that help children feel secure. Staff complete regular risk assessments on the building and equipment. Children's individual dietary needs are met well and appropriate records are kept to record children's requirements. All aspects of hygiene practices are good in the setting but the provider should consider how to ensure the most appropriate nappy changing facilities are provided. Children have equal access to all activities. There is a child protection policy for staff which is shared with parents.

The crèche plans a wide variety of interesting and exciting activities both indoors and outside for all children. The large range of good quality equipment ensures children have many opportunities to develop and learn, although access to the outdoor play area is currently limited. Staff encourage children by talking and playing with them imaginatively. Staff/child interaction is effective, as a result the children have 'fun' and behaviour is good.

There are good relationships with parents. The business-like approach and well documented policies ensure continuity of care for their children. They share information about the children through informal daily discussion. They are kept

informed about future and occurring events and themes by staff.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting agreed to obtain a copy of the Area Child Protection Committee Procedures (ACPC). This has been completed and the setting are familiar with the ACPC procedures.

What is being done well?

- The high staff ratios mean that children's individual needs are being thoroughly assessed and well met during sessions.
- The planned activities provide a wealth of experiences and opportunities that are interesting and exciting, to promote children's welfare and develop their learning skills.
- The toys and equipment are varied, accessible, stimulating, and well set and spaced out, enabling children to freely choose.
- There is a strong emphasis on safety. Staff complete risk assessments for the setting.
- There are comprehensive well written policies, covering all aspects of the crèche's work, which are shared with parents and understood by all staff.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The on going staff training programme which increases staff knowledge and understanding and ensures children's individual learning and development is well supported.

What needs to be improved?

- The nappy changing facilities to ensure they meet health and safety and environmental health standards.
- Children's access and use of the outdoor area throughout the year.

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 on.

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
4	Ensure children can access and use the outdoor area throughout the year.
6	Ensure nappy changing facilities meet health and safety and environmental health standards.

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.