



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 140842

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 29/03/2004
Inspector Name Sonjia Nicholson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Berton Playgroup
Setting Address Berton Sports Centre
Burcott Lane, Berton
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP22 5AS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Berton Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Berton Playgroup
Address Berton Sports Centre
Burcott Lane, Berton
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP22 5AS

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

Bierton Playgroup operates from the Sports Centre in the village of Bierton, on the outskirts of Aylesbury. The playgroup serves children living in the local area.

There are currently 57 children from 2 and a half years to 4 years on roll. This includes 29 funded 3 year olds and 19 funded 4 year olds. Children attend a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and there are systems in place to support children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five mornings and three afternoons a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:30 until 12 noon and 12:30 to 14:45.

Nine staff work with the children, four of whom have early years qualifications to level 2 or 3. Three staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Bierton Playgroup provides satisfactory care for children. The spacious premises are warm and welcoming for parents and children. Good use is made of the space, resources and staffing to ensure children are well cared for at all times; the large outdoor area is used effectively for children to play and explore. Children have easy access to the wide range of good quality toys and resources set out by staff each day.

Staff have a very good understanding of safety issues and all areas for promoting children's good health and hygiene have been addressed. Staff understand their role in the protection of children. Healthy eating is promoted through the food and drink provided at sociable snack times, however, there are limited opportunities for children to independently access drinks throughout the session.

Staff work very well with children; they keenly interact in their play and spend time developing trusting relationships. Staff plan a balance of adult-led and child initiated activities linked to themes that all children are involved in. Children are occupied and play well together; they respond well to the clear boundaries for behaviour in place.

Staff develop good relationships with parents; they communicate freely about the

care children receive and there are a number of systems in place to ensure parents are kept informed about news, events and children's progress. Parents are involved in the playgroup through the management committee and parent's rota; there is clear information for rota parents but this is not always shared effectively. All relevant documentation is in place, some of which lacks the necessary detail, However it is clearly presented, easily accessible and stored securely.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff establish good relationships with children; they enjoy their company and interact freely in their play. Staff plan a wide range of interesting activities linked to themes that develop all areas of children's play and learning. Children play co-operatively with one another; they relate well to known adults and appear happy and settled.
- The premises are very safe, clean and stimulating; children have space to move and play comfortably both inside and outside. Staff create areas within the hall for children to explore, play and learn; displays of children's artwork and colourful posters enhance the environment.
- Staff are very aware of their responsibility to ensure children are safe and supervised at all times; they take time to teach children how to handle resources and play safely, particularly on the climbing frame. Staff have good procedures in place to ensure the wide range of toys and equipment remain in good condition. Staff follow good hygiene practices in all aspects of their work; they encourage children to learn good personal hygiene habits such as washing hands before snack time.
- Children with special needs are well supported within the group; staff liaise well with parents and other agencies to ensure individual needs are met and progress is monitored. Staff encourage children to learn about other cultures, religions and disability through a range of festivals and activities incorporated into the curriculum; toys and resources reflecting positive images are plentiful.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Staff ensure parents have access to a range of written policies and procedures relating to all aspects of the service offered. Staff provide verbal feedback about the care received on a daily basis and complete a record of achievement that is shared with parents on a regular basis. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the group through the parent's rota or by joining the active management committee.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation, to ensure children's attendance records detail the times of arrival and departure, the complaints policy contains Ofsted's contact details

and the child protection policy is updated to include a statement to be followed in the event of a member of staff being accused of abuse

- opportunities for children to independently access drinks throughout the session
- accessibility of written information for rota parents, to ensure they are fully aware of their role and responsibilities.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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	Ensure rota parents are aware of the written information available in order that they are fully aware of their role and responsibilities.
8	Provide opportunities for children to independently access regular drinks.

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.