



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 120263

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	20/09/2004
Inspector Name	Ceri Ann Mills

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	The Crescent Nursery School
Setting Address	Merrow Cricket Club Epsom Road Merrow, Guildford Surrey GU1 2RE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Lynn Flaherty
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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 Crescent Nursery School opened in 1988 and is privately owned by Lynn Flaherty.

The group operates from Merrow Cricket Club, in Merrow, a suburb of Guildford, Surrey and serves families from the local community and surrounding villages. The group accepts children between the age of two years six months and five years. During operational hours the group has sole use of the single storey building which consists of one main room, toilet facilities, a kitchen and an enclosed area for outdoor play.

The group operates Monday to Friday, term time only and provides sessional care from 09:15 - 12:15. In the summer term the session is extended to 13:00 and includes a lunch club.

There are currently 28 children on roll, of these 16 are funded 3 year olds.

The group makes provision for and supports children with special needs and/or who speak English as an additional language.

There are six members of staff, including the proprietor. Four staff work directly with the children each session. Most staff have a recognised early years qualification and a current first aid certificate. Staff actively pursue training through the early years and childcare service for their professional development.

How good is the Day Care?

The Crescent Nursery School provides good quality care for children.

The staff work well together and are committed to providing care of the highest standard. The nursery is well organised with good procedures in place for operational management. The staff team is led by a qualified and experienced early years practitioner, who fully complies with regulatory requirements. Staff have a range of early years qualifications and continue to enhance their childcare knowledge through training workshops.

Much effort is made by the staff to create a warm, welcoming and child centred environment. Good use is made of the space and resources are plentiful and well maintained. All mandatory documents are in place and stored securely, however

some records are not in line with current good practice.

Most aspects of health and hygiene are promoted well. A high proportion of staff have a current first aid certificate. Security is effectively managed and staff demonstrate a vigilant attitude to safety. Children are closely supervised and arrangements for fire safety are good. Staff are fully aware of their responsibilities regarding child protection and share these with parents. Staff are committed to including all children into the nursery and ensure that activities are adapted to meet children's differing needs and abilities.

Snack time is well organised and children are provided with healthy drinks, a biscuit and sometimes fruit.

The daily routine is carefully planned to provide a good balance of adult led and child initiated learning through play. Children have access to a wide range of stimulating activities and participate enthusiastically. Staff manage children's behaviour well by adopting consistent and positive strategies. Good behaviour is promoted and staff foster warm and caring relationships with the children.

Key work staff keep parents very well informed about their child's developmental progress and parents have access to a wide range of relevant information.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The excellent deployment of staff mean that children are supervised very well and activities are organised in small groups. Children are given good levels of support and enjoy warm and caring relationships with consistent staff, who know and understand the individual needs of all the children attending.
- Staff plan rich and stimulating play opportunities which support all aspects of the children's development. Activities are changed frequently to provide sufficient choice and variation. The children readily take part and enjoy many first hand learning experiences.
- Staff have an extremely high regard for safety and ensure that appropriate measures are taken to safeguard children. Staff and children are familiar with and regularly practice fire safety procedures. Security is well managed and staff are aware of children's movements at all times. No one is able to gain entry to the building without the knowledge of staff and a record is kept of all visitors.
- There are good lines of communication between home and the nursery. Parents receive a good package of information about the nursery and there are effective arrangements in place for key work staff to share observational records with parents and keep them well informed about their child's achievements and development.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

There is much evidence to show that staff work hard each day to prepare the cricket club to provide a wide variety of learning and play opportunities in a safe and child friendly environment. Screens are effectively used to divide each base area and empty wall space is creatively transformed with bright and stimulating displays.

What needs to be improved?

- arrangements for recording staff CRB disclosures
- the recording of pre existing injuries
- the permanency of kept records
- children's records.

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 all regulatory records are kept in ink for permanency.
9	Revise child detail form to include religion and language spoken at home.
13	Ensure a record is kept of all pre-existing injuries.

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.