



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 140419

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	14/07/2003
Inspector Name	Gabrielle Pollock

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	High Cross Playgroup
Setting Address	High Cross Church John Williams Hall, Colsterworth Rd, LONDON N15 4BN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of High Cross Playgroup
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	High Cross Playgroup
Address	87 Warwick Gardens London N4 1JD

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

Highcross Playgroup opened in 1982. It operates from a church hall and has access to a kitchen and toilet area. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The group takes children from the local community who are predominately from African and African/Caribbean families.

The group is registered to provide care for 24 children aged from two to five years. There are currently 34 children on roll who attend a variety of sessions each week, including seven funded three years olds and two funded four years olds. There is one child attending with special educational needs and the group support 12 children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week for two sessions, from 9:30am to 12:00pm and 13:00pm to 16:00pm during school term times.

Five staff work with the children, three have early years qualifications and three are currently on further training. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Highcross playgroup offers satisfactory care for children. The staff strive to provide an anti-discriminatory and caring environment and work closely with the children and offer support and encouragement for their care and learning needs. The organisation and maintenance of some documentation and implementation of some procedures do not meet standards. Staff training is ongoing with both supervisors and another member of staff currently training for further childcare qualifications and all staff attending short courses whenever possible.

Organisation of the staff and the activity plans allow staff to know their role and responsibilities and therefore have time to play and talk to children on a one to one or in a group. Staff are aware of children's individual needs and interests. Interaction between staff and children is good.

Staff are aware of appropriate supervision levels to ensuring children's security both inside and outside the group. However risk assessments of safety issues need conducting and first aid equipment needs to be fully maintained.

Staff are committed to working in partnership with parents and information is shared

on the running of the playgroup and their child's progress on a regular basis. Parents participate in the group through the management committee and the parent rota.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the playgroup agreed to ensure children only attended 5 sessions per week, that public liability insurance was carried and that a written statement about working with children with special needs and an operation plan were developed. These agreements have been met in full improving standards in the playgroup. A further agreement to maintain policies, procedures and records was partly met and has been raised again this inspection.

What is being done well?

- Relationships between staff and children are good staff ensure activities meet the needs and interests of the children to develop children's thinking and learning. (Standard 3).
- Staff awareness of security issues with appropriate supervision levels maintained.(Standard 6)
- Equal opportunities practice is good with staff committed to implementing their equal opportunities policy(Standards 9).
- Staff commitment to meeting qualification requirements is good with training being undertaken (Standard 1).
- Partnership with parents is good with a regular exchange of information on the setting, children's progress and the group's activities. (Standard 12).

What needs to be improved?

- the notification of changes or events to OFSTED (Standard 1)
- the procedures for lost or uncollected children; (Standard 2)
- the child protection procedure for the playgroup (Standard 13)
- the maintenance and detail of written documentation (Standard 14)
- the maintenance of the first aid box contents (Standard 7)
- the assessments of the premises which identify actions to be taken to minimize risks; (Standard 14)

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
14	ensure that all required records relating to day care activities are maintained in full are readily accessible on the premises and available for inspection at all times	07/09/2003
1	notify OFSTED of any significant change or event;	14/07/2003
2	devise and implement procedures for lost or uncollected children	07/09/2003
13	ensure that the child protection procedure for the playgroup complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures	07/09/2003

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
7	ensure that the first aid box and its contents comply with Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations
14	ensure risk assessment of the premises are conducted identifying actions to be taken to minimize identified risks;

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.