



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 316402

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	03/03/2005
Inspector Name	Alexandra Cole

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Cutgate Playgroup
Setting Address	Norden Methodist Church Edenfield Road Norden Rochdale OL12 7QE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Cutgate Playgroup Committee
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Cutgate Playgroup Committee
Address	Norden Methodist Church Edenfield Road Rochdale Lancashire OL11 5XE

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

Cutgate Playgroup has been registered since 1992 and is managed by a private company. It operates from a ground floor room within Norden Methodist Church situated in the Norden area of Rochdale. The group serves families of mixed social and economic backgrounds who live in the surrounding area. The playgroup is open four mornings per week, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 09:30 to 12:00 during term time. Children are accommodated in a ground floor playroom with dedicated toilet and kitchen facilities, outdoor play is accessed in an area to the side of the building. The group caters for up to 32 children aged from two to under five years. There are currently 25 children on roll, of these ten 3-year olds are in receipt of Nursery Education Funding. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting offers support to children with Special Educational Needs. Four full time and two part time members of staff work with the children and two of the staff have gained a recognised childcare qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Cutgate Playgroup provides a good standard of care for children in a safe, stimulating and child-centred environment. Organisation is effective; staff have a clear understanding of their roles and most procedures are in place. Space is organised creatively and used to meet children's needs effectively. An excellent balanced range of resources and play opportunities are provided which meet the varying needs of children and create a stimulating environment. Documentation required for the effective management of the provision is in place and generally of a very good standard.

Most aspects of safety are good, staff are aware of hazards and able to reduce risks ensuring the environment is a safe place in which children can play and learn. Health and hygiene standards are good, children are encouraged to learn about personal hygiene through daily routines such as hand washing. Adequate, balanced and nutritious food is provided and complies with children's dietary requirements promoting their healthy growth and development. The staff are aware of their responsibility towards child protection and are able to put relevant procedures into practice. Effective systems are in place to ensure appropriate action is taken when a child with special needs attends the setting.

All children are treated as individuals and with equal concern and a good range of resources reflecting equality are available. There is an exciting range of resources

and activities available which cover all aspects of children's development, toys and equipment are stored at child height encouraging choice and promoting independence. Staff manage children's behaviour in a way that is positive and sensitive which promotes their welfare and development.

The staff have good relationships with parents, they are informed about all of the policies and procedures relating to the setting. Parents are given information regarding the care their child has received through verbal discussion ensuring continuity of care.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection an action was raised that related to devising a policy for lost or uncollected children. The playgroup have addressed this issue and a policy has been devised, however it needs to be developed further to ensure all of the required information is included.

What is being done well?

- Children enjoy a variety of stimulating activities which promote development in all areas of learning. There are ample resources, stored at child height and easily accessed by children encouraging choice and promoting independence. Staff hold good relationships with children and interact with them well. Warm and caring relationships are apparent ensuring children feel happy and settled.
- The environment is very warm, welcoming and child centred with displays of children's work around the room, showing that what the children do at the playgroup is valued. The room is safe, secure and space is organised effectively and used creatively to promote children's development.
- Equal opportunities is promoted effectively, meeting the individual needs of all children attending. Pictures and displays around the room promote diversity in society, ensuring children are aware of and respect peoples similarities and differences.
- Children's behaviour is managed effectively, staff have a good understanding of positive behaviour management strategies and implement them well. This is reflected in the very good behaviour of children attending. Good behaviour is promoted through praise and encouragement, building on children's self esteem and ensuring children relate well to each other.

What needs to be improved?

- safety with regard to the security of the gate in the outdoor area
- the information contained in the lost or uncollected child policy.

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
2	Ensure the lost or uncollected child policy contains all of the required information.
6	Make sure that the gate in the outdoor area is safe and secure.

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.