



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 131677

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/12/2003
Inspector Name Chris Banks

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Christchurch Playgroup (am and pm)
Setting Address Christchurch
Highbury Grove, Islington
London
N5 1SA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Christchurch Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Christchurch Playgroup
Address Christchurch Vicarage, Highbury Grove
London
N5 1SA

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

Christchurch Playgroup has been open for over 20 years. It operates from the first floor hall of a church in Highbury Grove situated in the London Borough of Islington N5 and serves the local catchment area.

There are currently 32 children aged from 2.5 years to 5 years on roll. This includes 13 funded 3 year olds and 7 funded 4 year olds. Children attend either a morning or afternoon session.

The setting currently supports children with special needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during term time. Sessions are from 9.30-12:00 and 13:00-15:00. There is no afternoon session on a Friday.

Three part time staff work with the children and are in the process of updating their early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Christchurch playgroup provides a good standard of care for children.

The play environment is safe, stimulating and welcoming to children. Space is well organised and staff place high priority on children's safety both in and outside the playgroup. Health and Safety procedures are succinctly written and form part of a well documented operational plan. With one minor exception, hygiene standards are good throughout.

The established staff team demonstrate a commitment to further developing their skills in childcare practice and receive ongoing training. The integration of children with special needs is effectively monitored by a designated staff member.

Children's activities are planned in a way that helps them make good progress in key areas of development with good opportunities for children to learn about other cultures. Well planned routines help ensure the children feel settled and secure in the play setting.

Partnerships with parents are good. They are represented on the management committee and make a positive contribution to the running of the playgroup. On a

day to day basis, parents and carers are made very welcome and are kept well informed about their children's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The Management Committee have developed a comprehensive operational plan that now includes the procedure for administering medication

Staff are in the process of updating their early years qualifications to NVQ level 3

What is being done well?

- Written policies and procedures contained in the recently developed operational plan are concise and written in a user friendly language. They cover all aspects of the service and a desk copy will shortly be made available to parents.
- There is a good understanding of the role of the Special Educational Needs Co Ordinator who has links with the appropriate professional agencies.
- Activities are planned and organised to ensure children have good opportunities to play independently and in groups. There is a designated member of staff who ensures equal opportunities is promoted throughout the setting.
- Parents are actively encouraged to participate in the running of the playgroup and form part of a supervision rota for the large outdoor play area.

What needs to be improved?

- arrangements for changing children
- the format for recording children's information to ensure it is consistent.

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
7	Ensure there are appropriate arrangements for changing children
12	Ensure information on children's registration forms is recorded in a consistent way

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.