



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 511118

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	01/12/2003
Inspector Name	Sheena, Anne Bankier

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Ladybirds Pre-School
Setting Address	Roebutts Close Newbury Berkshire RG14 7AP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Sue Hopkinson
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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

Ladybirds Pre-school is located on a small housing estate near the centre of Newbury and serves the local community. The group has sole use of the premises, which consists of a main room, a smaller quiet room, toilets and a small kitchen area. There is access to two outdoor areas which include a grassed area and a covered concrete area. The group is a registered charity and run by a committee.

The group operates during term time from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm Monday to Thursday and 9.00 to 11.30 am on Fridays. A lunch club is provided for children bringing a packed lunch. Funded three and four year olds and children with special needs attend the pre-school.

There are six permanent members of staff employed. Two support workers are also employed to give extra support to children with special needs. Most staff are qualified or are working towards National Vocational Qualifications at level two and three. The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership supports the group through training and visits.

How good is the Day Care?

Ladybirds Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. The manager holds an early years qualification and most staff are qualified or are undertaking training. Six members of staff hold current first aid certificates. A warm and welcoming environment is offered to children and parents by staff. Artwork is displayed and notice boards contain information for parents. There is a good range of resources at an accessible level for children. Most required paperwork is in place although, some lacks the necessary detail.

The staff and committee are fully aware of maintaining a safe environment for children through regular risk assessments. Children are closely supervised in and out of doors and whilst on outings. Good health and hygiene is promoted through established routines. Healthy and nutritious based snacks are offered to children who have access to regular drinks. Staff support children well and spend individual time with them. The group support children with special needs well and work closely with parents to provide any special requirements. Staff have an adequate understanding of child protection.

Children enjoy a good range of planned activities and toys which extend their

development and learning. All children have free access to all activities and toys. The group have a good range of resources which reflect positive images of society. Children's behaviour is generally good and staff understand and implement appropriate strategies to manage unacceptable behaviour. Staff give regular praise to children for their efforts and achievements.

The pre-school has good partnerships with parents. Staff communicate well with parents on a regular basis in order to meet the needs of children. Parents have access to information about the pre-school through notice boards and newsletters. Information regarding the policies and procedures of the pre-school is limited.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable as last inspection was a transitional inspection to Ofsted

What is being done well?

- The pre-school has comprehensive plans which relate to the early learning goals. There is a good range of activities and resources for children to select from. Staff provide good support to children, interacting well with them and extending learning through discussions during activities.
- The committee and staff are fully aware of their responsibilities with regard to health and safety. Staff ensure the environment is safe for children through daily checklists and by closely supervising children.
- Staff are aware of children's individual dietary needs through discussion with parents. Children are provided with healthy and nutritious based snacks and have access to regular drinks.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation;
- lost children procedure to be devised
- ensure that parents date and sign all accident records
- obtain consent to seek emergency medical treatment or advice from parents
- ensure that parents are aware of all policies and procedures of the pre-school
- staff qualifications; ensure that the required qualified staff ratio is maintained at all times.

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
2	Procedures for lost children to be devised	12/12/2003

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

Std	Recommendation
2	maintain the required qualified staff ratio at all times
7	ensure that all accident reports are signed and dated by parents
7	obtain written parental permission to seek emergency medical treatment or advice for children
12	ensure that parents are made aware of all policies and procedures of the pre-school

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.