



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 303727

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	16/06/2004
Inspector Name	Sandra Gurr

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Crossley Mill Children's Centre
Setting Address	New Road Hebden Bridge West Yorkshire HX7 8AD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Hebden Bridge Nursery Action Group
------	--

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Hebden Bridge Nursery Action Group
Address	Crossley Mill Childrens Centre New Road Hebden Bridge West Yorkshire HX7 8AD

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

Crossley Mill Children's Centre opened in its present premises in January 1998. It is managed by the Hebden Bridge Nursery Action Group (NAG), an organisation formed in 1985 by a group of parents who identified the need for quality childcare provision in this part of the Upper Valley. The nursery is based in a converted mill and has been refurbished to a good standard. It is situated alongside Rochdale canal just outside the centre of Hebden Bridge. The outdoor play area is adjacent to the side of the building and has a soft surface and wooden climbing frames. The lower level play area remains a hard surface. The whole of the outdoor area has been made secure with good quality high fencing and locked gates. The outdoor play equipment is stored in the locked cellar. The nursery staff work with three age groups of children within five rooms in the nursery.

There are currently 82 children from 0-5 years on roll. This includes 22 funded three year olds and 3 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs. There are no children currently attending who speak English as a second language.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round except bank holidays and Christmas. Sessions are from 7:30-18:00

Fourteen staff including the manager work with the children. A nursery cook and assistant work in the kitchen and a number of people are cleared to work as supply staff. Senior staff all have an early years qualification to Level 3 and five staff are currently working or about to start an early years qualification. The setting receives support from the local authority.

How good is the Day Care?

Crossley Mill Children's Centre provides good quality care for children in a friendly welcoming environment where children are happy and settled. Staff work well together and have good opportunities for training. They have good relationships with the children. There is a strong commitment to the safety of the children an intercom system ensures that the security of the premises is good. The organisation and smooth running of the nursery is carefully achieved by the manager and management committee.

Health and safety throughout the nursery is fully considered so that the environment

is a safe place where children can play and learn. Staff have a thorough induction into Child protection procedures and are very aware of children's individual needs. Children with a special need are well supported. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged throughout the nursery, staff praise children and ensure that they are busy and happy in their play. The vegetarian menu is very varied and portions are generous. Children enjoy their food and are very sociable at the meal table.

Childcare provision in the nursery is of a good standard and staff work well with the children as they do their activities. Creative activities are enjoyed in all rooms and children are very confident and talkative in their play. Outside play provision is of a high standard. Care of the babies is good and staff enjoy one to one relationships with the children. However, planning to cover areas of development is limited. Planning and assessments for the pre school children is in place and is developing.

Partnership with parents is very good. Regular newsletters and a parents notice board keep them informed of nursery events. They are welcomed into the nursery and are represented on the management board. Many parents have built a good relationship with staff and say how much their children enjoy coming to nursery.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection there were several actions relating to safety. All safety issues are now fully addressed ensuring that children are cared for in a safe environment

What is being done well?

- The menus are nutritious and all meals are freshly prepared on the premises. Staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs.
- There are good employment procedures in place so that staff have regular supervision and access to training.
- Staff's relationship with children is good so that they are happy in the nursery and respond well to praise and encouragement.
- There is very good attention to safety throughout the nursery. Comprehensive risk assessments are in place and the security of the premises is good ensuring that children are safe.
- Relationships with parents are very good. Parents receive good information about the setting and their children. Regular newsletters and daily contact with key workers ensures that continuity of care is promoted.
- Management and staff have a clear commitment to improvement. All children and their families are valued and equal opportunities for all is promoted well.

What needs to be improved?

- planning and assessment for the pre school children, so that all areas of the curriculum are covered and there are clear learning objectives linked to the stepping stones

- planning for the baby room, so that activities are linked to areas of development.

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
3	Consider the way in which planning of activities for the baby room is linked to areas of development.
3	Develop a system that ensures all areas of the curriculum are covered in the planning for the pre school room and that the learning objectives are linked to the stepping stones.

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.