



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 318113

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/03/2004
Inspector Name	Kathryn Margaret Clayton

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Hobby Horse Day Nursery
Setting Address	Mrs Margaret Cavanagh Meadow Croft, Mosham Road, Blaxton Doncaster South Yorkshire DN9 3AZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Margaret Cavanagh
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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

Hobby Horse Day Nursery first opened in June 2000. It is a privately owned nursery situated on the outskirts of the small village of Blaxton, near Doncaster.

Children aged up to five attend the nursery. They have access to two main ground floor playrooms, one for babies under two and the other for children aged from two to five. An additional area on the first floor is used by both groups of children. Kitchen, toilet and nappy changing facilities are also available. There are two small enclosed outdoor play areas and the nursery is set in extensive grounds including open fields. Children have access to some of the owners animals including chickens and dogs.

The nursery opens from 08:00 to 18:00 on Monday to Friday for fifty-one weeks of the year apart from bank holidays. There are currently thirty-six children on roll, including children in receipt of educational funding. Seven childcare staff are employed, five of whom hold or are working towards a relevant qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Hobby Horse Day Nursery provides good quality care for children aged 0-5 years.

The friendly, welcoming and stable staff group work well as a team to provide consistency of care for children. The management team provide effective support for staff on a day to day basis and through offering on-going training and development opportunities. The smooth running of the nursery is ensured by having well-organised documentation containing most of the necessary details.

The nursery environment is bright and welcoming to children. Good use is made of the rural setting and natural environment through regular walks. Children choose from a good range of well organised resources. Staff make sure children receive excellent care according to their individual needs and routines. They teach children about good hygiene and healthy eating as part of their daily routines and address most aspects of outdoor safety.

Staff organise a varied and interesting programme of activities to promote all areas of children's development. They listen to children and provide very good support as children learn through taking part in relevant play opportunities. Older children concentrate well and engage in tasks that sustain their interest for some time. They

show increasing independence and behave very well.

The nursery develops very good open relationships with parents, sharing information after every session about their child's time at the nursery. Parents are happy with all aspects of care. They receive useful information about the nursery and are well informed about the service provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has improved outside play provision by making sure the grassed area near the baby room is secure, safe and well maintained.

What is being done well?

- Staff effectively manage children's behaviour in a positive manner and children behave very well. Babies respond well to staff and older children are becoming increasingly independent. Staff teach children how to be polite, share and take turns.
- The nursery has very good open relationships with parents. Parents are kept well informed through twice yearly meetings, notices, letters, displays and daily diaries. They are encouraged to speak to staff about any concerns.
- Staff plan a varied and interesting routine for children. Children have well planned indoor activities and also have opportunities to use the rural environment and local setting with walks to see the owner's horses and chickens.
- The nursery encourage children to learn about healthy eating. They provide all meals and snacks, including a healthy and nutritious home-cooked lunch, for example minced beef with fresh vegetables, home-made bread and fruit salad.

What needs to be improved?

- the safety of children, by ensuring the decking area is made safe and a procedure for the safe conduct of outings is in place
- the child protection procedures, by ensuring the policy includes details of the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against a staff member.

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
6	Ensure the decking area near the baby room is made safe.
6	Devise a policy for the safe conduct of outings.
13	Ensure the child protection policy includes procedures to follow should allegations be made against a staff member and contains local authority contact numbers.

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.