



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 146464

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/10/2003
Inspector Name	Sarah Catherine Jex

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	Pin Green Play Centre
Setting Address	Webb Rise Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 5QU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Stevenage Borough Council
------	---------------------------

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Stevenage Borough Council
Address	Daneshill House, Danestrete Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 1HN

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

Pin Green Playscheme is situated at the play/community centre in Hampsted Park, Stevenage.

It is an Open Access scheme for children aged 5 - 14 years, who may attend and leave as they wish. Children under the age of 5 may attend providing they are accompanied by an adult.

The Playscheme has the use of the hall, an office, a kitchen, toilet facilities and large outdoor play area.

The Playscheme is open Monday to Friday from 09:00 - 12:30 and from 13:30 - 17:00 during all school holidays. It is also open on Tuesday - Friday from 15:30 - 18:00 and on Saturday from 10:00 - 12:30 and from 13:30 - 16:30 all year round.

There is a team of 4 adults who work with the children.

This Playscheme is run by Stevenage Borough Council.

How good is the Day Care?

Pin Green Playscheme provides satisfactory care for children.

Pin Green Playscheme provides children with a welcoming and relaxed environment. The children interact well with each other and the staff, as well as having the opportunity to socialise and make new friends. The older children often help the younger children and the activities are generally appropriate for the age ranges of children present.

The space within the building is used effectively and areas are set aside for different activities. The physical activities are mainly played outside, however the room was very cold due to the doors having to remain open as they are too heavy to be propped open. Staff have an awareness of potential dangers for both in and outside the building, but still, a risk assessment needs to be completed with regard to the outside lighting.

A daily routine is in place, which can be flexible according to the children's needs. A well managed and stocked tuck shop is open during certain times of the day. The children enjoy a selection of activities both in and outside which they help plan.

These include art and craft, cooking and themed topics, however the children need to be able to have easy access to the table top toys and games.

Staff have formed positive relationships with the parents and often chat informally about their child, this at times provides a useful exchange of information. Additional information is provided by booklets and on the notice board. All staff receive ongoing training and they are well informed about the policies and procedures for the running of the Playscheme.

Staff manage any occurring incidences well, and in accordance with their behaviour management policy and procedures. However, the deployment of staff within the setting is at times ineffective as the behaviour of the older children can have an adverse effect on the younger children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection Stevenage Borough Council agreed to address a wide range of actions relating to staff qualifications, training, child protection, risk assessment, informing Ofsted of changes, premises, safety and documentation.

A range of comprehensive policies and procedures covering all the above issues and others are in place.

What is being done well?

- The children enjoy the selection of activities both in and outside which are planned by themselves, and are provided by the centre.
- Staff implement the behaviour management policy and procedures well and the older children responded to direction when staff intervened over issues.
- Staff have positive relationships with the children and respond to the children's needs and interests, giving praise and encouragement.
- Staff provide a well stocked tuck shop offering a variety of hot and cold nutritious snacks and drinks for the children.

What needs to be improved?

- -staff deployment
- -maintain an adequate temperature within the building
- -risk assessment for the outside lighting
- -children's access to the toys

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

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure the staff are deployed effectively within the setting.
4	Ensure the room is maintained at an adequate temperature.
5	Table top toys and games need to be readily accessible to the children.
6	A written risk assessment needs to be completed regarding the outside lighting.

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.