



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 317574

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	04/02/2004
Inspector Name	Sandra Elizabeth Williams

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Piggy Lane Playgroup at Hindpool Nursery School
Setting Address	Bath Street Barrow-in-Furness Cumbria LA14 5TS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Piggy Lane Playgroup at Hindpool Nursery School
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Piggy Lane Playgroup at Hindpool Nursery School
Address	Bath Street Barrow-in-Furness Cumbria LA14 5TS

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

Piggy Lane Playgroup opened in January 2001. It operates from a classroom situated in Hindpool Nursery School in Barrow in Furness. The group also has access to a kitchen, toilets, store cupboards and an enclosed outdoor play area.

It serves the local area.

It is registered for 26 children and there are currently 49 children aged from 2 years to 5 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with special needs.

The group opens 5 days a week during school term times and sessions are from 11:45 until 15:15 hours. The group also operates play schemes during some of the school holidays and sessions are from 9:15 until 11:45 and 12:45 until 15:15 hours.

5 staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 3. One member of staff is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

The group is a member of the Pre school Learning Alliance and has recently gained the Better Practice Pre Accreditation Award.

How good is the Day Care?

Piggy Lane Playgroup provides good care for children. The playgroup is a warm, welcoming and stimulating environment where children feel secure and settled. A good range of appropriate play equipment is available for the children which they enjoy and find stimulating. The staff work well together as a team and through training and assessments are committed to extending their knowledge and expertise of early years child care. Documentation is well organised and kept confidentially.

There is generally a good level of safety within the playgroup particularly the security of the building and the safe and secure outside play area. However there is room for further improvement regarding some safety issues. Hygiene practices are promoted well within the playgroup and staff are well qualified to cater for the children's health needs in the case of an accident or emergency. Children are provided with a good variety of healthy snacks throughout the session which they can help themselves to. Staff have a good awareness and knowledge of child protection procedures and

understand their responsibilities in these matters. However, the child protection policy requires further detail.

A good range of activities are planned for the children which they find interesting and fun. There is a good balance between free play and adult initiated activity. Children are able to choose from a wide range of play materials which are well laid out and easily accessible to them. They have freedom of movement to alternate from one activity to another. Children engage in themed activities relating to different cultures as a means of raising awareness. Staff provide lots of praise and encouragement for the children's achievements which boosts their self confidence and esteem.

Effective systems are in place for keeping parents informed by encouraging discussion, displaying information and providing a range of policies.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection it was agreed that the health and safety procedures would be improved by completing a risk assessment of the premises, ensuring that dangerous substances are made inaccessible to children and by obtaining written parental consents for emergency medical attention. All these actions have been satisfactorily completed, thus improving the level of safety for children.

It was also agreed that a system would be developed for informing parents about the activity programme provided for children. An activity plan is now displayed on the notice board which informs parents about the activities undertaken by their children.

It was also agreed that an action plan would be devised to demonstrate how the group would ensure that sufficient staff are qualified to the required standard. This has been undertaken and 50% of the staff group are suitably qualified which ensures that the children receive a good standard of care at the playgroup.

What is being done well?

- There are effective systems in place for monitoring children's achievements. The key worker system works well and staff use their observations for planning future activities based on the individual learning needs of the children.
- The wide range of activities includes inviting visitors to the playgroup such as the music man and the police which the children enjoy and find interesting.
- Staff exercise good strategies, in line with the setting's policy, for managing children's behaviour and place much emphasis on giving children praise and reward for their achievements. Children respond well to this.
- The welcoming and relaxed atmosphere within the playgroup enables parents to talk freely to the staff about their children. Staff work closely with parents and the school in order to best provide for the needs of the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedure for the safe collection of children and safety regarding the internal doors
- the procedure regarding child protection.

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	Develop further the procedure for the safe collection of children by authorised adults.
6	Minimise risks to children regarding the internal doors.
13	Expand the child protection policy for the playgroup by including the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation of abuse being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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.