



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253100

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	24/09/2003
Inspector Name	Tricia Jordan

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St Marys Pre-school
Setting Address	Park Street Rear of St Marys Church Worksop Nottinghamshire S80 1HH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St Marys Pre-School
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St Marys Pre-School
Address	Park Street Rear of St Marys Church Worksop Nottinghamshire S80 1HH

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

St Mary's Pre-School opened in 1976. It operates from the old school annex building in the grounds of St Mary's church. The pre-school serves the whole community.

There are currently 33 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 7 funded 3 year olds and 10 funded 4 year olds. Children attend a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs, but none who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during the school term.

Sessions include a morning session 9:00-12:00, lunch club 12:00-13:45 and an afternoon session 13:45-15:15.

A team of six staff work with the children, with a minimum of four staff at each session. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to N.V.Q. levels two and three, including one staff member currently working towards level three. The setting receives support from the Pre-School Learning Alliance, inclusion support for special needs and the early years specialist teacher.

How good is the Day Care?

St Mary's Pre-School provides good quality care for children.

It offers a warm and welcoming environment, with ample room for the children to play and explore in. It is child-orientated, with children's art work displayed on all walls and the ceiling. There are good recruitment and vetting procedures in place which ensure all staff's suitability when caring for children. The operational plan is clear and comprehensive, including all relevant information, policies and procedures.

There is a good awareness of maintaining a safe and hygienic environment, through the use of space, and staff's knowledge and daily implementation of relevant policies and procedures. Plans do identify and reduce most risks within the provision. Fire safety procedures are in place, and evacuations are completed regularly, but the evacuation record doesn't include enough detail at present. Staff are very aware of meeting all the children's needs including any special needs, and about ensuring their safety in relation to child protection procedures.

An extensive range of toys and equipment are available for the children to play with,

alongside good play plans. Staff interact with the children positively, getting down to their level, playing and talking to them appropriately. They are also clear on how to manage children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

Relationships with parents are good and staff ensure that parents wishes are clearly respected and adhered to. Confidentiality is considered at all times, and a clear policy is in place to emphasise this. Daily communication with parents ensures parents are kept well informed of what their children have been doing e.g. eating and sleeping routines.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider agreed to devise; policies regarding the exclusion of children who are ill or infectious, and in the event of an allegation of abuse being made against a staff member, and a system to ensure all staff are suitable both mentally and physically to be caring for children. Both policies are now in place, making procedures much clearer for staff and parents. A health and suitability questionnaire has also been introduced as part of the recruitment procedures, therefore clearly clarifying staff's mental and physical suitability. All improvements ensure the overall safety and well-being of the children.

What is being done well?

- Staff are committed to further training, to develop their knowledge and skills. They have attended many courses in order to do this e.g. child protection, first aid and food hygiene.
- Comprehensive play plans are in place, which ensures the staff provide the foundation stage curriculum. These plans clearly state the aims of activities, effectiveness and outcome for the children's learning. Detailed child development records are also kept to record children's achievements.
- Staff have a very good understanding on how to meet children's special needs. They ensure all activities are accessible to all, employ extra staff to offer one-to-one care, and liaise/work with other professionals to meet the specific needs of children as required.
- Staff have a good understanding about how to manage a wide range of children's behaviour of varying ages. They have clear strategies to use and handle behaviour in a caring and sensitive manner. Clear boundaries are provided and good behaviour is valued and encouraged. Children can feel settled and happy within this environment.
- The partnership with parents is very good. There are clear settling-in procedures for new children and parents, which are comprehensive and ensure all relevant information is gathered, in order to meet the children's needs effectively. Parents help out within the setting on a rota basis and there is an abundance of written information which is either given to parents or is displayed clearly on notice boards.

What needs to be improved?

- safety, in relation to conducting a risk assessment of the premises, which is reviewed as necessary;
- documentation, by including more detail in fire evacuation record.

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	take positive steps to promote safety within the setting by ensuring a risk assessment of the premises is conducted and reviewed if there is a significant change or it becomes no longer valid, also by including more detail within the fire evacuation record.

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.