



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 108056

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/12/2004
Inspector Name Cordalee Harrison

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name White Hill Pre-School
Setting Address White Hill
Chesham
Buckinghamshire
HP5 1AG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Deborah Jane Chamberlain

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

White Hill Pre-School first opened over 30 years ago. It operates from a room within the White Hill Community Centre in Chesham. The pre-school have access to a playroom, kitchen and cloakroom facilities. An outdoor area is available for use. The pre-school serves families from the local surrounding area.

There are currently 21 children on roll. This includes 10 in receipt of nursery education funding. The setting accommodates children with English as an additional language and special needs.

The pre-school opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions run from 09.15 until 12.15 each day. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

There are currently four staff members employed to work directly with the children. Two members of staff hold relevant early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

White Hill Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. The environment is warm and welcoming to children and their parents. The setting operates with a stable staff team, but the operational plan is not comprehensive it contains a number of policies but they do not all contain the required elements and they are not familiar to all staff. Children's observation records do not include the next step in children's development and information regarding children's health is inadequate.

Some safety issues in the setting have been addressed, but the procedure for assessing risks does not ensure that all areas are free from tripping hazards and fire drills are not practiced by all staff neither are they fully recorded. The arrangement for changing nappies is unsatisfactory. Staff give parents good information to provide their children with nutritious snacks, staff provide suitable drinks. Staff are aware of their responsibility to protect the children in their care but their knowledge of child protection is basic. Staff have an open and positive attitude to providing care for children with special needs. Staff manage children's behaviour well.

A good range of equipment and resources are available for children to use daily. Staff present children with many activities that are based on the Foundation Stage curriculum. Children are involved in a variety of free choice and structured activities throughout the session. Children enjoy many first hand experiences and use the

resources to good effect, they have fun and progress in all areas of development, as well as developing their understanding of the wider world whilst they learn through play.

Staff work well with parents, parents are happy with the service provided. Staff provide parents with good information about the Foundation Stage curriculum, but there is no system in place to provide parents with consistent information about their children's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The provider was asked to develop and implement an action plan that sets out how the supervisors will achieve a level three qualification. The Person-in-Charge has achieved a Diploma in Pre-School Practice and the deputy is due to complete the Diploma in Pre-School Practice by the end of the term ending December 2004. All Pre-school sessions are supervised by staff who are qualified in Pre-School Practice.

What is being done well?

- Children settle well in the group, they are involved in a wide range of structured and free choice activities, with a balance of child and adult initiated activities. Children occupy themselves well and enjoy many first hand experiences through play; children are purposefully engaged in activities throughout the session.
- Staff are effectively deployed and are fully engaged with the children. Staff are experienced at managing the behaviour of children; children behave well they cooperate with their peers and involve others positively in the activities they have initiated.
- Staff understand the importance of teaching children to eat healthy, they encourage parents to provide health snacks for children. Parents provide children with a wide variety of healthy snacks including fresh fruit; children enjoy their snack time.

What needs to be improved?

- the staff's knowledge of child protection including the Area Child protection Committee procedure and develop the child protection policy to include a procedure for dealing with allegation of abuse against staff
- the operation plan, to ensure that the policies and procedures contain all the essential elements and are familiar to all staff
- the children's observational records to include the next step in children's development and they are shared with parents to keep them informed about their children's progress
- the children's health record to contain sufficient information about children's health and a procedure for dealing with information about allergies

- the nappy changing facilities
- the safety procedure, make sure that all staff are able to carry out their responsibility in the event of a fire and that all areas of the premises are free from slipping and tripping hazards.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
13	Develop staff's knowledge of child protection including the Area Child Protection Committee Procedures and develop the child protection policy to include a procedure for dealing with allegation of abuse against staff.	14/02/2005

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

Std	Recommendation
7	Improve the nappy changing facilities.
2	Ensure that the policies and procedures contain all essential elements and are familiar to all staff.
3	Improve children's observational records to include the next step in children's development and share with parents to keep them informed about their children's progress.
7	Ensure children's health records contain sufficient information about

	children's health and a procedure is developed for dealing with information about allergies.
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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.