



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY277353

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/06/2004
Inspector Name Karen Cooper

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Noah's Ark Playgroup (Bentley Heath)
Setting Address St James Church at Bently Heath CE Primary School
Widney Close, Bentley Heath
Solihull
West Midlands
B93 9AS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Noah's Ark Playgroup (Bentley Heath) 4939617 4939617

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Noah's Ark Playgroup (Bentley Heath) 4939617
Address 32 Apsley Grove
Dorridge
Solihull
West Midlands
B93 8QP

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

Noah's Ark playgroup opened in 2004 and is based within St James Church, which is located in the Bentley Heath area of Solihull. The group operates from a large hall and have access to toilets and an fully enclosed outdoor play area. Children attending are mainly from the local area.

There are currently 11 children from 2 years and 6 months to 5 year on roll. The setting is not in receipt of funding for three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

Sessions are from 10:00 to 12:00 Tuesday and Thursday during school term time. There are two members of staff available to work with the children. Both hold a relevant early years qualification.

The group receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and is member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Noah's Ark playgroup provides a satisfactory standard of care for children. The group offers a warm and welcoming environment to children and their families. The range of toys, furniture and equipment ensures that children can play, eat and rest comfortably. The deployment of staff ensures that children are well supported when participating in activities. Documentation is regularly reviewed and confidentiality is maintained.

Staff pay particular attention to ensuring the safety of children at all times. Risk assessments are regularly undertaken and any hazards minimised. There are effective procedures in place to prevent the spread of infection and to protect children in the event of illness, although written procedures need to be reviewed. Children are encouraged to learn about personal hygiene through the daily routine. They are provided with snacks and a drink during the session, however would benefit from water being made readily available. Staff are aware and have an appropriate knowledge and understanding of their role and responsibility to protect children in their care.

The varied range of age appropriate toys, resources and activities encourage

children to make progress in their development, although they would benefit from a wider variety to help them appreciate and value the similarities and differences of other cultures. Staff work well as a team and interaction with the children is good. They are attentive to the children's needs and encourage the children to respect and co-operate with each other.

Staff work in partnership with parents and information is shared on a regular basis to ensure that the children are being cared for in accordance with their wishes.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable, as this was the first inspection.

What is being done well?

- Space is organised creatively to ensure that the needs of the children are being met and daily routines are planned to ensure children participate in physical play on a regular basis,
- Staff have a good understanding of managing the children's behaviour. They promote a calm and organised environment and are consistent in their dealings with the children and work diligently to reinforce good behaviour.
- Parents are kept well informed of their child's progress and daily events via a variety of means such as, the notice board, newsletter, progress sheets, open mornings, daily discussions and policies and procedures.

What needs to be improved?

- the availability of drinking water
- procedure in the event of children's sickness
- children's awareness of other cultures and beliefs.

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
7	Devise and implement a policy about the exclusion of children who are ill or infectious and make sure parents are made aware of it.
8	Ensure fresh drinking water is available to children at all times.
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote anti-discriminatory practice.

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.