



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 137287

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/03/2005
Inspector Name Anne Robertson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Clockhouse Methodist Church Playgroup
Setting Address Clock House Road
Beckenham
Kent
BR3 4JP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Clock House Methodist Church Pre-School
Group 1027027

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Clock House Methodist Church Pre-School Group
Address Clock House Methodist Church
Clock House Road
Beckenham
Kent
BR3 4JP

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

Clockhouse Methodist Church Playgroup is managed by a committee of parents and church representatives and has been open since 1990. It operates from two rooms in a church hall in Beckenham. A maximum of 24 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. Children are admitted from two and a half years. The playgroup is open from 09:30 to 12:00, each weekday except Tuesday, during term time only. There is a small enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 25 children on roll of whom 18 receive funding for nursery education. Most of the children live in the surrounding area. The pre-school currently supports children with special needs.

The group employs three staff. The manager has an appropriate early years qualification and one of the staff has just completed training to gain a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Clockhouse Methodist Church Playgroup provides good care for the children. There is a detailed set of policy documents which underpin the organisation of the group. Staff work well together as a team and provide the appropriate level of support and supervision for the children. The required records are kept up to date and in good order. One record requires some further information.

Overall the premises is welcoming and inviting to children, though some maintenance and additional cleaning is required. There are systems in place to ensure the health, safety and security of the children. Prior to children's admission to the pre-school, information is gathered from parents to assist staff in meeting children's individual needs.

There is a wide variety of toys and equipment suitable for the ages of the children. These include resources which promote equality. Children are engaged in a variety of stimulating and enjoyable activities. These are planned in advance to ensure each area of learning is covered. Children's progress is then evaluated to inform future planning. Staff interact well with the children. They use praise and encouragement to help promote good behaviour. Consequently, children behave well.

The pre-school aim to work in partnership with parents. They provide a parents' booklet containing information about the service and the curriculum. Parents are

kept informed of their child's progress and are welcome to help in the pre-school if they wish.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the pre-school agreed to carry out eleven actions. These were to: maintain a record of incidents; ensure children could not access the kitchen and rear stairs; ensure staff and committee members had been vetted; add a procedure to the child protection statement; make sure toilet areas were clean; maintain good hygiene practices when hand washing in the playroom; keep a record of visitors; ensure parents had signed relevant consents; observe and record children's progress; record arrival and departure times. One action regarding the administration of medication was no longer relevant. All other actions had been carried out satisfactorily thus enhancing the quality of the service.

What is being done well?

- The policies and procedures are well written, clear and kept in good order. They include all of the required information and are summarised in the parents' information booklet.
- There is a good selection of resources. These are used to provide a range of activities to stimulate children's interest and enable them to learn new skills. Activities are provided which promote children's physical, creative and social development and they have many opportunities to use their imagination.
- Staff interaction with the children is good. They talk, listen and question children appropriately. They show care and concern for their welfare and appear to know each child well. Children approach staff easily to seek their advice, support and encouragement.
- The procedures for managing behaviour are good. Children are taught the boundaries for behaviour and staff re-enforce these. Any unacceptable behaviour is dealt with in a positive way. Staff endorse good behaviour and take account of children's age and understanding, as well as any special needs.
- The partnership with parents is good. Parents are welcomed into the pre-school and are given good information about the service and their children's progress. Parents show confidence in the service provided and are happy that their children are being well cared for.

What needs to be improved?

- some maintenance and cleaning of the premises
- the record of fire drills.

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
4	Ensure the premises is maintained in a satisfactory condition and that cleaning of high surfaces is carried out regularly.
6	Include in the record of fire drills the number of children and adults present and the evacuation time.

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.