



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 119601

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/11/2004
Inspector Name Fiona Sapler

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Overland Childrens Centre
Setting Address 60 Parnell Road
Bow
London
E3 2RU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name London Borough Of Tower Hamlets

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name London Borough Of Tower Hamlets
Address Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent
London
E14 2BG

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

The Overland Children's Centre is run by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and since October 2003 has incorporated the borough's special unit for hearing-impaired children. It occupies a purpose built nursery building in a densely populated residential area. The centre is open from 08:00 to 17:30, Monday to Friday, for 51 weeks of the year.

There are currently 50 children on roll, of whom eighteen 3-year-olds and three 4-year-old are in receipt of government funding. Seventeen children have special educational needs and the centre supports children with English as an additional language.

Children are cared for by a suitably qualified nursery staff of 10, in addition to administrative and domestic staff. Staff have the support of the Early Years advisor and specialist staff for the hearing-impaired. Staff also run a group to help parents develop their own skills. Families using the centre come from all over the borough and reflect the cultural diversity of the area.

How good is the Day Care?

Overland Children's Centre offers good care in an organised, welcoming environment. An enthusiastic, well-managed team show a commitment to providing a stimulating, child centred provision. All staff hold relevant child care qualifications. There are effective strategies in place to ensure good use is made of space and resources, however some attention is required to maintaining appropriate staffing ratios throughout the day. A spacious and very well planned outdoor area provides additional challenges and opportunities for exploring the natural environment. Required documentation is in place although there are no staff details on file.

Attention is paid to ensuring children's safety and security at the centre and clear procedures are in place to prevent cross infection and to promote good health and hygiene. There is a high level of awareness to meeting children's individual dietary requirements.

A wide range of learning opportunities and activities are offered to meet all areas of development. Effective methods are in place to ensure progress is monitored and next steps are planned. Staff are interested in children's views and opinions and ensure that they are able to express themselves through play, activities and

conversation. Children are well supported and have many opportunities to be independent and make choices. Individual needs are identified, and assessed, and steps are taken to ensure these needs are met in an environment where all cultures, backgrounds and those with additional needs are valued and included. Behaviour is managed sensitively and children are praised and encouraged to share and co-operate. There is a knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in the provision. A key worker system provides a clear channel for communication. Records, regular reviews and competent planning ensure parents are fully informed of the provision and their children's progress and development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

An action was set to ensure a window in the laundry was safe and inaccessible. This has been repaired and children do not have unsupervised access to the laundry.

What is being done well?

- There is very strong emphasis on providing a fully inclusive setting where all additional needs are supported and children are assisted to reach their full potential. Children have access to one to one support if necessary and a specialised unit is available for children who are deaf or hearing impaired. Staff sign, or are learning to sign, and signing is used within the setting.
- Effective planning is in place and regular observations, recordings and reviews ensure children's progress is monitored and the provision meets each child's individual needs.
- Staff, activities and resources reflect and celebrate diversity in the wider community and promote positive images of a variety of cultures, religions and backgrounds. This is supported by bright imaginative displays and posters.
- The centre offers a very welcoming and stimulating environment.

What needs to be improved?

- The maintenance of appropriate ratios when children have free access to both indoor and outdoor play
- the maintenance of staff contact details on file

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

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
2	ensure staffing ratios are maintained at all times especially during outdoor/indoor play
14	ensure contact details for all people working on the premises are held on file

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.