



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 224931

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/05/2003
Inspector Name Jasvinder Kaur

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Old Fallings Playgroup
Setting Address United Reform Church
Old Fallings Lane, Low Hill
Wolverhampton
West Midlands

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Old Fallings Park Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Old Fallings Park Playgroup
Address United Reform Church
Old Fallings Lane
Wolverhampton
WV10 8BY

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

Old Fallings Playgroup was opened in 1970. It operates from the Old Fallings United Reformed Church Hall. The playgroup serves the local area.

The group is registered for 25 children aged between 2 and 5 years old. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The playgroup opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 until 11:30.

Seven staff members work with the children. Three of them are N.N.E.B. qualified. The group is supported by the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Old Fallings Playgroup provides satisfactory care for children aged 2-5 years.

Staff are experienced, however, the required qualification level is not met. Procedures and policies are poor. Space in the hall is well used although storage is inadequate.

Staff are vigilant about children's safety both inside and outside but do not have a statement of procedures to be followed in the event of a fire. The staff ensure children with special needs are included in activities although staff are not aware of the Code of Practice.

The quality of care for children is satisfactory. The staff provide a range of activities to create a stimulating and interesting environment. Resources which reflect diversity are not in use.

There is a satisfactory partnership with parents but staff do not have a statement of procedures regarding parents complaints. Parents were not issued with a questionnaire prior to the inspection.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to six actions relating to policies and procedures and a further action relating to resources.

Staff are not maintaining an appropriate skill base for the care of children as there has been no progress in meeting qualification requirements. There has been some improvement in ensuring the environment is safe and providing a risk assessment. Diversity in the immediate and wider society is not promoted. The opportunity for children to use resources which reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity and disability has not been extended. A written equal opportunities policy has been devised, however, it is inconsistent with current legislation and guidance. A special needs statement has been produced. However, staff have no awareness of or regard to the Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Need. A brief statement for the management of behaviour has been introduced. The child protection statement which has been devised is not based on local Area Child Protection Committee procedures. Staff have not developed their awareness of these procedures.

What is being done well?

- There is a good selection of toys and equipment to provide a balanced range of activities.
- There is a good use of space to promote children's development.
- Staff value and encourage good behaviour. Children respond well to staff directions.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures to provide for 50% qualified staff and the ongoing training needs of staff;
- storage for easy access to resources;
- safety of the heaters in the hall;
- the availability of a qualified first aider on the premises at all times;
- procedures for recording accidents;
- procedures for obtaining written parental permission for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment;
- the equal opportunities policy and resources to promote equality of opportunity;
- awareness of the Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Need;
- complaint procedures;
- knowledge and understanding of child protection issues;
- the procedures for completing the attendance register for staff;
- essential policies and procedures;
- procedures for lost or uncollected children;

- statement of procedure to be followed in the event of a fire.

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
2	develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half of all childcare staff will hold a level 2 qualification in childcare;	14/12/2003
13	ensure that the child protection procedure for the playgroup complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures;	24/09/2003
14	review essential policies and procedures for the setting.	24/09/2003

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

Std	Recommendation
4	ensure that storage is sufficient and accessible.
6	ensure that the heaters are safe or inaccessible to children;
7	develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate will be on the premises or on outings at any one time;
7	ensure that accidents are recorded and countersigned by parents;
7	obtain written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment;
9	further develop the equal opportunities policy to ensure it is consistent with current legislation and guidance and ensure that this is shared with parents;
9	ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources

	that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice;
10	gain awareness of the Code of Practice for the Identification of Special Educational Need;
12	make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint;
13	develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues;
14	devise a statement of procedure to be followed if a parent fails to collect a child or a child is lost;
14	devise a statement of procedure to be followed in the event of a fire;
14	ensure there is a system for registering staff attendance.

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.