



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 220007

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 27/09/2004
Inspector Name Coral Hales

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Caterpillars Pre-School
Setting Address Church House, St. Botolphs Road
Barton Seagrave
Kettering
Northamptonshire
NN15 6SR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Caterpillars Pre-School 1039053

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Caterpillars Pre-School
Address Church House, St. Botolphs Road
Barton Seagrave
Kettering
Northamptonshire
NN15 6SR

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

Caterpillars Pre-school opened over 30 years ago. It operates from Church House next to the Parish Church in the village of Barton Seagrave. The pre-school serves the local area.

There are currently 19 children on roll, aged from 2-years-6-months to under 5 years. This includes 10 funded 3-year-olds and 2 funded 4-year-olds. The group has systems in place to support children with special educational needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school opens three mornings a week during term time. Sessions are from 09:30am to 13:00 on Monday and Wednesday and Friday. Three staff work with the children, the supervisor has a level three qualification and her staff both have appropriate early years level two qualifications. The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and from the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Caterpillars Pre-School is warm and welcoming and provides good quality care for children overall. The premises are safe and secure, and suitable for their purpose. The layout of the room provides a comfortable environment for children to engage in different types of activities and to make choices and decisions. A good variety of toys and resources are used effectively to support their learning and development. The staff team are friendly and caring and have developed effective working practices as a team. The operational plan works well in practice and documentation is well organised and underpins the good practice shown by staff. Some regulatory policies are not sufficiently detailed.

Good attention is given to ensuring children settle happily into the group and to promoting their confidence and self-esteem, and children's individual needs are met well. Adult:child ratios are good, and the relaxed atmosphere enables the children to feel safe and secure. Staff are deployed effectively throughout the group, and they supervise the children well in order to promote their safety. They demonstrate a consistent approach to managing children's behaviour and children know what is expected of them. However staff's knowledge of recent legislation and current practice relating to child protection is limited. Staff have a good understanding of

health issues and help the children to learn about good hygiene through daily routines.

Good partnerships have been developed between the parents and the staff which enhances the care of the children. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the committee and with their child's learning. They are well informed about the procedures which contribute to the smooth running of the group. Parents comment positively about the quality of care and the good progress that their children are making at the pre-school. Parent questionnaires are also very positive.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The pre-school is well managed and documentation is well kept. This helps to underpin the smooth running of the group. Staff are well deployed throughout the session and offer the children good levels of support with their learning.
- Staff interact really well with the children at their level of understanding. They ensure children are given clear simple instructions and they encourage them to attempt new and more challenging tasks. Staff show a good understanding of the areas of learning and support all children's interests well.
- Staff help children to learn about right and wrong and acceptable behaviour. Clear and consistent boundaries help children to know what is expected of them, and as a result they are well behaved.

What needs to be improved?

- the statement on child protection arrangements to include reference to the Area Child Protection Committee procedures and staff's knowledge of child protection issues.

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
13	Ensure that the child protection policy for the pre-school complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures. Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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.