



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY269789

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/07/2004
Inspector Name Andrea, Jane Lockyer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Snakes and Ladders Playgroup
Setting Address C/o St Aidens Community Centre, Princes Road
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE3 5NP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Snakes and Ladders Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Snakes and Ladders Playgroup
Address 9 Fairway Close
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE3 5AR

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

Snakes and Ladders Playgroup have been registered since 2003. It is located in St Aidens Community Centre in the Brunton Park area of Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne, local amenities and public transport systems are within walking distance. The group have sole use of the large hall within the centre, there is no outdoor play space.

The playgroup is registered to care for up to 34 children from 2 years to 5 years and are open from 09:30 to 12:00 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays term time only, they are not in receipt of funding for 3 and 4 year olds, there are currently 37 children on roll.

There are 8 members of staff who work directly with the children; 1 member of staff has a PGCE teaching qualification, 1 member of staff is a children's nurse, 1 member of staff has a NNEB qualification, 2 members of staff are qualified to NVQ level 2 and 3, and 2 members of staff are currently completing NVQ level 3.

How good is the Day Care?

Snakes and Ladders Playgroup provides good quality care to children. Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment, where children are happy, confident and settled. Staff work well together, an induction programme, policies and procedures and regular meetings ensure that they are clear of their roles and responsibilities. Areas for promoting health and safety are good. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for personal hygiene, and they are made aware of safety issues both in and out of the premises.

Staff have good relationships with children and know them well. They spend time with groups and individual children to build relationships and help them learn. Children respond positively to clear guidance and praise, they interact well with each other and with staff, and behaviour is good.

Planning, resources, play materials and toys are used well to provide children with a variety of experiences that enhance and promote individual development and skills in all areas of learning. The provision of resources that reflect positive images of people with disabilities, will further develop children's awareness and understanding of anti-discriminatory practice.

Children are provided with healthy well balanced snacks, which take account of individual dietary needs.

Children who have special needs are supported well, they are included, valued and individual needs are met.

Staff have good relationships with parents, they share information about the children, and discuss activities and achievements daily. Parents are provided with an information booklet, policies and procedures and copies of planning. More effective arrangements for sharing information with parents should be implemented, to keep parents well informed of their child's development and progress.

All relevant paperwork is in place and contain good details.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- Relationships with children are good. Staff enjoy their company and know them well. They spend time talking and playing with children, to help them learn and develop. Children are happy and confident.
- Policies and procedures are comprehensive. They contribute to the smooth running of the provision and underpin the good quality care.
- Relationships with parents are good. They are made welcome in the group, and are able to share information with staff daily. They are kept well informed of policies and procedures and what their children are involved in.
- Planning and organisation are good. Staff plan a wide range of stimulating activities for children of different ages and abilities, which help all children make progress in all areas of learning.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements to ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice in relation to disabilities.
- the arrangements to ensure parents are kept well informed of their child's progress.

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
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice in relation to disability.
14	Ensure there are effective procedures to keep parents informed of their child's development and progress.

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.