



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 122504

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/02/2004  
Inspector Name Linda Close

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Epsom Methodist Nursery  
Setting Address Epsom Methodist Church  
Ashley Road  
Epsom  
Surrey  
KT18 5AQ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Church Council

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Church Council  
Address Epsom Methodist Church  
Ashley Road  
Epsom  
Surrey  
KT18 5AQ

## 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

Epsom Methodist Nursery is a community based group, managed by the church council. It operates from the church hall which is located in Epsom town centre and is open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 09:30-12:00 in term time only. The group has sole use of the main hall and one side room and has access to toilets and outdoor play space. The kitchen is shared with other church community groups who regularly meet in the building.

At present there are three four-year-olds and fourteen three-year-olds on the roll who are in receipt of nursery grant. The children who attend live in Epsom and the surrounding area. A small number of children have special educational needs. Several children hear other languages spoken at home. Five members of staff work with the children, four of whom hold a recognised early years qualification. A regular voluntary helper assists the staff and children at all four sessions. Advisors from the local Early Years Childcare Service visit the group.

### How good is the Day Care?

Epsom Methodist Nursery provides a satisfactory standard of care for children. The person in charge and over 50% of the staff are suitably qualified. There are sufficient staff and a helpful regular volunteer. The premises are clean and well maintained. There is ample space for the children to play and move freely. Furniture is suitable and in a good state of repair. There is a generally good range of toys and books to support most but not all aspects of learning. Most documents are kept according to regulation apart from the complaints policy.

An acceptable range of activities gives children time to be active and time to sit quietly. Staff spend all of their time working directly with the children. Some very good activities give children first hand experiences but others are of limited value because children are not always permitted to experiment and explore. All children are encouraged to take part in all activities. Activities and displays do not properly acknowledge the diversity of the children in the group and the wider community. The special needs coordinator notes the progress of some children and liaises appropriately with their parents. The children know what is expected of them and their behaviour overall is good.

Staff are aware of potential risks indoors and they take appropriate steps to keep children safe although fire evacuation is not practiced or recorded correctly. A first

aider is present at every session. Staff are aware of children's dietary needs. A drink is provided at snack time but children do not have free access to drinking water. Snacks are not always healthy or nutritious. Staff understand their role regarding child protection.

Informal daily exchanges enable staff and parents to share some useful information about the children but parents are not fully informed about children's progress. Staff are not well informed about the background of some of the children. This limits the effectiveness of the partnership.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

not applicable

#### **What is being done well?**

- Behaviour management is generally a good aspect of the provision. The children know what is expected of them which helps them to feel secure.
- The nursery is located in a bright, clean hall which is spacious and well prepared before children arrive. The children are keen to see what is set out for them and this helps the children to leave their parents and carers on arrival.
- All members of staff have attended training courses in child protection. They are aware of the signs and symptoms of possible abuse or neglect and would take appropriate action if they were concerned for the welfare of children in their care.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the completion of fire evacuation practices and the recording of their details
- children's access to fresh drinking water
- the choice of snacks, which is often limited to sweet biscuits
- staff knowledge and understanding of the background of each child and staff knowledge of equal opportunities issues
- the displays and activities that support equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice
- the complaints procedure for parents
- information for parents to include sufficient information about children's achievements and progress.

#### **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
12	Make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint including Ofsted contact details.	22/03/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
6	Complete regular fire evacuation practices with the children and record details of the practices clearly.
8	Ensure that children have ready access to drinking water at all times.
8	Provide healthy nutritious snacks for the children.
9	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities issues.
9	Ensure that the range of activities offered reflects the background of the children in the group and that they see positive images of gender, culture, disability and ethnicity in order to promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.
12	Provide opportunities for parents to regularly receive good quality information on their children's 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.*