



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY243716

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	20/01/2004
Inspector Name	Christine Fraser Turner

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Abacus Pre-School Nursery
Setting Address	190 Greenmount Lane Markland Hill Bolton Lancashire BL1 5JE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Nila Faulds
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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

Abacus Playschool opened in January 2003. It is situated in a two-storey garage conversion in the Heaton area of Bolton and has sole use of the premises. There is a large playroom on the first floor and a quiet area on the ground floor. A garden is available for outdoor play. There are 25 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 15 funded 3 year olds and 4 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently no children with special needs on roll. The group opens Monday to Friday from 08:45 until 17:45 for 51 weeks a year. It is closed for all Bank Holidays and for one week between Christmas and New Year. Four staff, including one part time member of staff work with the children. Half the staff has a recognised child-care qualification and the remaining staff are working towards a recognised child care qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Abacus Playschool provides satisfactory day care for children.

The detailed operational plan supports the organisation of the day and staff training is encouraged. The premises are welcoming to children and parents. Sufficient space is available in the large playroom for children to move freely and take part in floor play. A wide variety of equipment, which is cleaned regularly, is available and staff are aware that not all equipment is suitable for younger children. Most equipment is stored well but some areas in the home corner need to be reviewed. All required documents and policies and procedures are in available with the need for minor improvements.

Risk assessments are in place and staff are aware of safety issues through the induction procedure to ensure children's safety. Staff familiarise children with fire safety procedure through regular fire drills and most aspects of fire safety meet advice from the fire officer's report. Most aspects of hygiene are acceptable and there are good arrangements in place for sick children. Staff promote healthy eating using advice from the dental hygienist and children have access to regular drinks. Staff take time to gather information from parents to ensure that individual care and dietary needs are provided according to parents wishes. Children behave well but staff do not have a clear understanding of the new behaviour management policy. Staff understand their role well in providing care for children with special needs and role protecting children.

Children have access to a wide range of toys and staff are aware that not all toys are suitable for younger children. Children have opportunities to use their imagination and are interested in the toys available for most of the time. Staff observed and record children's development but need to ensure that planning and the routine meets younger children's needs.

Staff and parent/carers have a good relationship.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The partnership with parents/carers. They exchange daily information and parents/carers receive additional information through regular newsletters and parents evenings.
- Staff provide a welcoming environment for parents and children
- Health and safety has a high priority.
- Staff have a good understanding on working with children with special needs and work well with parents and other professionals

What needs to be improved?

- provision for children aged two years including development records and the routine for all children at the end of afternoon snack and early leavers
- staff understanding and implementation of the behaviour management policy
- the provision of emergency lighting
- the routine for hand washing at snack time
- the child protection policy.

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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
3	Review planning to take account of the needs of children aged two years and provide an appropriate system to record their development. This should be linked to a review of the routine following afternoon snacks time
6	Comply with the recommendation of the fire report and ensure that a torch is readily available for emergency lighting
11	Ensure all staff understand and implement the behaviour management policy
13	Review child protection statement based on procedures in 'What To Do If You Are Worried A Child Is Being Abused–Summary'.

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.