



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY287349

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 18/11/2004
Inspector Name Peter, Stuart Woodhouse

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Creche Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Audley and Queen's Park Children's Centre
Setting Address Pringle Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 1SB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Address Early Years Excellence
K Floor, Town Hall, King William Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 7DY

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

Audley and Queens Park Children's Centre was registered in 2004.

The provision is based in a new purpose built children's unit within a new centre and situated in the residential area of the Queens Park district of Blackburn. Blackburn town centre is within easy access.

The provision offers full day care for 64 children aged from birth to five years, crèche facilities for seven children under five and after school care for 10 children aged from five to eight years, in individual rooms within the centre. The provision offers care from Monday to Friday between 08:00 and 18:00 apart from Christmas week and bank holidays.

All children attending the provision have access to a purpose built children's unit sited within the new building, which offers a range of resources and services to the local community.

The day care provision includes a separate baby unit, two to three year old base and a pre-school area.

Children are also able to access the centre library during periods when it is closed to other users.

Children have access to suitable toilet and hand washing facilities within the day care unit and suitable nappy changing facilities in the baby unit.

There are secure, purpose built outdoor play areas with soft play surface accessed from individual rooms.

Staff, kitchen and laundry facilities are available.

The crèche is sited in the family room and has it's own toilet and hand washing facilities. The out of school service is sited in the meeting room. Children attending the out of school provision have use of toilet and hand washing facilities shared with other users of the centre.

The manager is suitably qualified and experienced. She holds an NNEB and an NVQ 4 in management. Her two deputies are also qualified to NVQ level three with the remaining members of staff qualified to at least NVQ level 2 or above.

The Nursery is registered to receive funding from the DfES in respect of nursery education for three and four year olds.

How good is the Day Care?

Audley & Queens Park Children's Centre offers good quality care for children.

Staff give high priority to ensure children are safe both inside and outside the premises by undertaking regular risk assessments. Staff, who reflect the diverse community the provision serves, work well together and offer a wide range of experiences for children in a caring and consistent approach.

The group offer art/craft activities, linked to seasons and festivals throughout the year. These provide children a wide variety of experiences, encouraging children's thinking and research.

A good range of high quality play and learning equipment is available, which is suitable to stimulate and challenge children of all ages. Staff organise an interesting programme of activities for children through their play plans and monthly theme activity.

All play and learning equipment are of good quality and support children's imagination and creativity.

Equipment is changed regularly throughout the sessions to ensure children's development and interest is maintained. A good selection of toys and equipment are available which reflect positive images of race, culture, gender and religion, but little to promote disability.

All children are encouraged and educated in healthy eating through choices of varied and nutritional freshly prepared meals. Children are encouraged and educated in good hygiene practices. Behaviour is managed in a positive and age appropriate manner, using different techniques.

The nursery maintains a high standard of documentation, with a very comprehensive set of policies and procedures in place. The staff have a good working partnership with parents, which was evidenced from the positive comments on the parental questionnaires returned, thank you cards and parents spoken to on the day of inspection. All parents are made aware of the groups very comprehensive policies and procedures. The group need to review the information contained in the attendance register.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The nursery is a very well run and organised provision. The nursery has a

very comprehensive operational plan.

- Children are offered a wide variety of good quality toys, equipment and activities in well set out and welcoming environments.
- Staff give high priority to children's safety, health and hygiene, both inside and outside the nursery by undertaking daily risk assessments.
- The provision, through their staff team, reflects the diverse community it serves.
- Staff have a positive attitude to the inclusion of children in all activities and daily routines by offering appropriate equipment to meet the child's needs.
- Children are offered freshly prepared choices of varied and nutritious meals.
- The nursery maintains a high standard of documentation, with a very comprehensive set of policies and procedures in place.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Audsley & Queens Park Children's Centre provides an excellent balance of care, learning and play. There is a professional and cohesive staff team who work well together to provide a variety of stimulating and exiting play activities in a bright child centred environment. Children are afforded the opportunity to make discoveries and extend their development through their play and learning (Standard 3).

What needs to be improved?

- details of staff attendance
- toys and equipment which promote positive images of disability.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
2	show times of staff attendance in the individual room registers.
9	increase the range of toys which reflect positive images of disability.

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.