



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305044

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	18/11/2003
Inspector Name	Janice Linsdell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Dodleston Under Fives Playgroup
Setting Address	Dodleston Village hall Dodleston Chester Cheshire

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	MRS CAROL HILL
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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

Doddleston Under Fives Playgroup opened in 1981. It is managed by a committee and operates from the main room of a local village hall, situated in the Doddleston area of Chester. The playgroup serves the local area.

There are currently 14 children from 2 and a half to 5 years on roll. This includes six funded three year olds and one funded four year old. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently no children with special needs or who speak English as an additional language attending the group.

The group opens four days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09.15 until 11.45 on Monday, Tuesday and Friday and from 13.00 until 15.00 on Wednesday.

Four part-time staff work with the children. Three of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 and 3.

As the playgroup are in receipt of funding for nursery education, they have access to a Foundation Stage teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Doddleston Under Fives Playgroup provides good quality care for children under five years.

The premises are secure and provide a welcoming environment for children and parents. Staff are deployed effectively within the group and work well together as a team. Not all committee members have completed the vetting process. All relevant documentation is maintained according to regulation and most records contain sufficient and accurate detail.

Staff plan a wide range of interesting activities and play experiences to help the children make progress in all areas of development. The room is well set out with a good selection of toys and equipment to support different types of play. Staff are vigilant about the children's safety at all times and they take positive steps to reduce any hazards on the premises. Good hygiene practices are implemented to prevent the spread of infection. Equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice are well promoted within the group. A variety of healthy snacks are provided for children and

they also eat snacks that they have made during the session.

Children are happy and settled and consistent daily routines help them to feel secure and enjoy their day. Children behave well towards each other and adults and good behaviour is positively reinforced through regular praise and encouragement.

Staff keep parents well informed about the provision and the children's progress and development. The notice board displays information about policies, the key worker system, parents duties within the group and ideas about how parents can extend children's learning at home. Feedback from parents is positive about the staff, the personal attention they give to children and the range of activities provided within the group.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the playgroup agreed to address the following actions:

devise procedures for the administration of medication, update policies regarding equal opportunities and complaints and keep an accurate record of attendance for children and staff.

All of these actions have been completed appropriately. A new medication book has been purchased to record any medicines administered to children. The policy document has been updated to include all required policies and a complaints slip has been added to children's registration forms, which provides parents with contact details for Ofsted. Children's attendance is accurately recorded in the daily register. Times of arrival and departure are not recorded, but any changes to agreed session times are noted.

What is being done well?

- Staff interact positively with the children and offer appropriate care and support throughout the session. The group is well organised and the daily routine helps children to feel secure and enjoy their day.
- There are a good range of toys, equipment and play materials available to enhance children's play and learning. Children are interested in the toys and activities provided and enjoy their play.
- Children are introduced to various religious festivals and participate in a range of activities to help them learn and celebrate cultural diversity. A range of resources, posters and displays are available to promote culture, religion, gender and disability.
- Staff develop good relationships with parents and welcome their help and support within the group. They provide parents with suggestions about how they can help with their children's development and learning at home.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements for completing vetting procedures for committee members
- the procedures for recording accidents and ensuring that confidentiality is maintained
- the policy regarding lost and uncollected children

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
1	Make sure that committee members complete appropriate vetting procedures.
14	Maintain confidentiality in the accident record and ensure that parents sign all accidents.
14	Update the policy regarding missing children to include procedures to be followed if a parent fails to collect a child.

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.