



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 301817

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	14/09/2004
Inspector Name	Anthea Errington

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Riding Mill Pre-School
Setting Address	Church Lane Riding Mill Northumberland NE44 6DR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Committee of Riding Mill Pre-School
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Committee of Riding Mill Pre-School
Address	Church Lane Riding Mill Northumberland NE44 6DR

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

Riding Mill Pre School has been a registered sessional service for approximately 20 years. It is run by a parent's committee and located in the village hall in the centre of Riding Mill.

The group is registered for a maximum of 24 children between the ages of 2 -5 years of age. The service offers places for children with special needs but there are no children currently attending. Support for funded education is provided by the local school and the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

Within the hall children have the use of the large main room, a side room and the toilets. There is also a kitchen. There is an enclosed outdoor area for their use.

How good is the Day Care?

Riding Mill Pre School provides good quality care for pre-school age children. They offer a warm and welcoming environment where children are happy and feel secure through good adult support. Space and resources are well organised. Good attention is given to meeting children's individual needs.

Health and safety issues are well met and children are encouraged to follow good hygiene practices. The group are aware of child protection procedures.

Children have access to a wide range of toys and equipment which provide a balanced range of activities which promote children's individual development and learning in all areas. Children are happy, settled and fully occupied and interested in their play. Interaction between staff members and the children is warm and caring, children's behaviour is managed well.

Positive relationships with parents have been developed and information is shared on a daily basis keeping them informed of children's progress and achievements.

Records are kept in a well organised manner including records of attendance. Confidentiality is respected and fully maintained.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Systems have been implemented to ensure individual children do not attend for

more than five sessions per week.

What is being done well?

- Good relationships have been established with the children. The staff members interact with the children well and show a good awareness of children's individual needs. Children are happy and relaxed in their care.
- Effective steps are taken to promote children's safety at all times. The group raises children's awareness of these issues through regular routines.
- A wide variety of interesting activities and good quality toys are available. These are easily accessible and enable the children to make their own choices and develop independence.
- Behaviour management is good. The group uses consistent, sensitive, methods to take into account of the children's ages and stages of maturity. Children are encouraged to share and good behaviour is readily praised.
- Positive relationships have been developed with parents in order to promote children's well being, development and progress. Systems have recently been implemented to ensure parents are kept fully informed of the provision.

What needs to be improved?

- the written record of medicines given to children to ensure it is signed by parents
- the system for recording incidents
- the complaints procedure so as to include Ofsted contact details
- staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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
7	Keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children.
11	Devise and implement a system to record any incident.
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.
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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.