



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 250035

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	16/09/2004
Inspector Name	Mary Pratty

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Coppice Playgroup
Setting Address	St Stephens Church Centre Coppice Road Solihull West Midlands B92 9JY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	MRS DENISE BATES
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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

Coppice Playgroup has been registered since 1994, under the current registration. It is based in the hall at St Stephens Church Centre, located in Solihull. An additional playroom and ancillary facilities are also available. There is an enclosed outside play area.

There are currently 24 children on roll. The group accepts children aged from two years six months to five years. Children attend for a minimum of two sessions each week. The group accepts grant funded children although, there are none currently attending. Children with Special Educational Needs are welcomed.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:15 - 11.45 hrs. There are eight permanent staff, some work on a flexible, part-time basis. Fifty percent of staff hold a recognised child care qualification. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Coppice Playgroup provides satisfactory care for children. The premises are warm and welcoming. Staff have taken time to display the children's creative activities, which helps parents gain an insight to the variety available. The operational plan, comprises of a range of policies, procedures and records. However care needs to be taken to ensure that the documentation available provides, sufficient information for staff and parents to be well informed. Overall children have access to a good range of equipment that supports, both inside and outside play and there are some resources that provide positive images of diversity, although books are more limited. The children have regular opportunities to access toys and activities independently, enabling them to make choices about their play and learning.

Staff demonstrated a clear understanding of their responsibilities, with regard to health and safety; the premises are generally safe and security is robust. Hygiene standards are good. Children learn about hygiene practice through daily routines. However risk assessment needs to be improved and fire drills need to be carried out on a more regular basis. Good attention is paid, to meeting dietary needs.

There is a good balance of adult led and child initiated play, staff plan a wide range of experiences which help children learn and develop new skills. However

monitoring and assessment records need to be improved in order to ensure that sufficient information is available to fully inform planning. Staff showed a commitment to inclusion, all children's individual needs are given high priority. Children are given time to explore, investigate and make decisions about their play and learning. They are purposefully occupied. Staff are warm and caring in their interaction with the children, this encourages children to be settled and happy to stay.

Partnership with parents is given high priority. Staff provide verbal information about children's care and progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable as there were no actions raised at the previous inspection.

What is being done well?

- Interaction is of high quality. Staff are actively involved in the children's play where appropriate. They use conversation and open questions to encourage the children to think through their answers and to develop their play.
- The group have a wide range of equipment and resources that enables staff to plan interesting and stimulating experiences.
- Children are provided with varied and nutritious snacks, that promote healthy eating.
- Staff are sensitive in creating an inclusive environment. They work closely with parents and other agencies to meet individual needs.
- Strategies to manage children's behaviour are consistent and stage appropriate. Staff act as good role models providing a calm caring environment where children learn to co-operate and value each other.

What needs to be improved?

- the temperature of the hot water in the toilets
- books that promote positive images
- risk assessment
- fire safety
- documentation with regard to; planning/assessment, accident/medication recording, policies / procedures including; the special needs statement, children lost and not collected, complaints, child protection.

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
14	Provide a statement of procedure to be followed if a child is lost and ensure that all records, policies and procedures contain sufficient information for the safe management of the group.	08/10/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
3	Further develop the system of observational monitoring and the link between planning and assessment.
4	Ensure that the temperature of the hot water is appropriately regulated.
5	Ensure that books promote a good range of positive images with regard to diversity.
6	Conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying action to be taken to minimize identified risks and ensure that recommendations made by the Fire Officer regarding fire drills are met.

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.