



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 250043

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	06/05/2004
Inspector Name	Myra Lewis

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Elmdon Playgroup
Setting Address	Gaydon Road Solihull West Midlands B92 9BN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Catherine Price
------	-----------------

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

Elmdon Pre-School has been running for many years, the current manager has been in post since 1989. It operates from Valley Church Centre in Solihull and has use of a large hall and a small back room. Toilets and kitchen facilities lead off the main hall. There is a concrete play area in the front and the whole premises are enclosed by a high wooden fence. The setting serves the local area.

The group opens three mornings a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09.30 to 12:00 on Monday, Thursday and Fridays during term time. An additional session is offered after Easter on Wednesdays from 09:30 to 12:00.

Four full time staff work with the children, 25% of staff have an early years qualification to NVQ level 2 or 3. There are two staff currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Elmdon playgroup provides satisfactory quality care for children. It is well organised and makes effective use of available space. There is a variety of toys, resources and equipment that enable children to access a range of activities which support their learning and development. They move freely around the hall and have easy access to all play activities. Generally all required paperwork is in place and stored appropriately.

Staff take appropriate steps to promote safety within the setting, however attention needs to be given to carry out regular risk assessments and minimise any hazards. Children follow daily routines that actively encourage their understanding of good hygiene practices. Children are provided with regular drinks and snacks which take account their individual dietary requirements.

Children enjoy a suitable range of activities and play opportunities that are linked to the early learning goals and effectively aid their learning. They separate well from their parents and become actively involved in their play. Staff treat children with equal concern and attend well to their individual needs. The well established staff team know the children well and offer them appropriate support as they play. Positive behaviour is valued. Staff offer children clear explanations, praise and

encouragement to behave well. Children learn to share, take turns and follow simple instructions.

Staff have open and friendly partnerships with parents. Information is shared daily and parents wishes are respected. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the setting and take part in their children's learning. Parent questionnaires showed positive comments from parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

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

What is being done well?

- Space and resources are organised effectively to meet the needs of children. The hall is well set out to allow children easy access to toys and equipment, which enables them to choose their play activities.
- Staff work well as a team in planning a suitable range of activities. They support children well in their play by talking and asking them questions which promotes their thinking and learning effectively.
- Staff have a consistent and positive attitude to managing children's behaviour. Staff act as positive role models and children behave well.

What needs to be improved?

- the system to identify potential hazards within the setting
- the system used to record fire drill procedures.

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
6	Review the methods used to record fire drill practices.
6	Conduct a risk assessment of the setting identifying action to be taken to minimize potential hazards.

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.