



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 205250

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/03/2005
Inspector Name Paula Hunt

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Ashton under Hill Playgroup
Setting Address The Green Room
Ashton Under Hill, Elmley Road
Evesham
WR11 7SW

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Ashton Under Hill Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Ashton Under Hill Playgroup
Address Elmley Road
Ashton-under-Hill
Evesham
Worcestershire
WR11 7SW

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

Ashton-under- Hill Playgroup registered in 1992, although it has been in operation for many years previous. It operates from The Green Room within a village hall, which is attached to the school premises in Worcestershire. The group serves the local area.

There are currently 10 children aged from 2 years to under 5 years on roll. This includes funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting is able to support children with special educational needs, and who speak English as an additional language. The group opens two days per week during school term times at present although additional days are currently under consideration. Sessions are from 09:00 until 12:00.

Two staff work with the children, both of whom have early years qualifications to NVQ level 3. The setting receives support from a mentor teacher from the Worcestershire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership. The group are also members of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and have good relationships with Ashton-Under-Hill First School.

How good is the Day Care?

Ashton under Hill playgroup provides satisfactory care for children. Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment for children where they are settled and enjoy their time. Space is well organised to promote children's development, but careful monitoring is required with regard to maintaining an adequate constant temperature. Most aspects of the group are suitably organised and managed appropriately. However, some documentation, and procedures need to be updated and improved.

Both staff have appropriate qualifications, skills and experience, and children are offered a wide range of interesting activities that promote learning in all areas. Children would further benefit from an increased range of resources to promote equality of opportunity. Good support is given to children with special needs and staff work with parents to manage children's behaviour in a consistent, positive manner. Children form caring relationships with staff and each other. Both staff have appropriate qualifications, skills and experience.

The playgroup staff have a good awareness of safety both inside and out to ensure children are kept safe, although some improvements are required with regard to

written risk assessments and safe storage of hazardous substances. Staff encourage good hygiene practices with the children, although the hand washing procedure needs improvement, and medication procedures are to be fully formulated and implemented. Children are provided with a selection of healthy and nutritious snacks.

Partnership with parents is good. Information on children's achievements is shared verbally on a daily basis. They also receive information through newsletters, leaflets and displays.

What has improved since the last inspection?

A number of actions were raised at the last inspection and many of them have been addressed although some such as the written risk assessments, accident recording and medication documentation remain outstanding.

The low level glass has had a layer of protective film applied, running hot water has been installed in the toilet areas, child protection and complaints procedures have been reviewed to include Ofsted's contact details and Social Services contact telephone numbers.

What is being done well?

- A warm and welcoming environment is created for children where they feel secure and happy.
- Time and resources are well organised to allow a good balance between child and adult led activities.
- Good role models are set by staff and children behave well. They learn to be kind to one another and sensitive to each other's needs.
- Safety and security are given high priority and children learn good health and hygiene procedures.
- Staff are welcoming and friendly to parents, who value the daily feedback about their children's care and learning.

What needs to be improved?

- children's safety with regard to the completion of risk assessments and safe storage of hazardous substances
- policies and procedures for adequate heating, complaints, medication, lost and uncollected children, special needs and child protection
- hygiene when hand washing to ensure children have access to running water when washing hands
- children's access to activities and resources which promote equality of opportunity.

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	Devise procedures to obtain written permission from parents for administering medication to children and keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children.	31/03/2005
14	Review and update policies with regard to special needs, complaints and child protection.	31/03/2005
14	Devise written procedures for lost and uncollected children.	31/03/2005

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

Std	Recommendation
4	Ensure rooms are maintained to a suitable temperature.
6	Ensure children have no access to hazardous substances.
6	Ensure a risk assessment is conducted and an action plan with timescales identifies action to be taken to minimise any identified risks.
7	Ensure good hygiene practices are in place at all times regarding hand washing.
9	Increase the range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for children.

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.