



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253190

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	20/01/2005
Inspector Name	Emma Hartnell-Baker

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St John's Playgroup
Setting Address	St John's Church Oakdale Road Carlton Notts NG4 1BP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St John's Playgroup
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St John's Playgroup
Address	St. Johns Church Oakdale Road, Carlton Nottingham Nottinghamshire NG4 1BP

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

St John's playgroup is a committee run group, which opened in 1965. It operates from the St John's Church in a residential area of mixed housing on the outskirts of Nottingham. The group has access to a kitchen, toilets and a secure outside play area. It serves the local area and is registered to provide 26 places for children aged between 2 years to 5 years. There are currently 26 children on roll all of which are funded 3 and 4-year-olds.

The playgroup opens 5 days a week during school term times. Sessions last from 09:15 to 13:10 and include a lunch club. Five staff work regularly with the children, 3 of whom have NVQ level 3 qualifications. All staff hold a current first aid certificate. The setting receives support from the Nottinghamshire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

St John's Playgroup provides satisfactory care to children. Staff use the available indoor space well to provide a welcoming and attractive environment and children settle easily. Equipment and play materials are varied, well maintained and attractively presented to children. Staff have suitable qualifications or experience and improve their knowledge and skills by accessing further training. Policies, procedures and records are generally well organised.

The setting has satisfactory intentions in relation to safety, but the deployment of staff does not support these and children have access to unsuitable areas. Procedures are in place to ensure children's individual health, care and dietary needs can be met. However, details of allergies are not always available to all staff. Individual preferences and healthy nutrition are not fully taken into account when planning snacks. Some positive steps are taken to promote the good health of the children. Child protection procedures are in place, but not all staff are fully aware of current guidelines.

The playgroup is organised to give children the opportunity to work as individuals or in group situations that are both adult-led and child-chosen. Children are involved in a broad range of planned activities, that are effectively organised, to enable them to make independent choices. Staff are consistent and calm in their management of children. They develop positive relationships with the children so that they want to

behave well, although staff do not always recognise when children become bored. Staff are interested in meeting the needs of individual children, including those with special needs, and some play resources are provided to help children learn about the wider world.

Staff work in partnership with parents to ensure that children are cared for with regard to their individual needs.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff have continued to develop existing knowledge and skills through ongoing participation in relevant training.
- The space is used well and consideration given to organisation of resources in order to provide a variety of stimulating experiences. As a result children settle easily and enjoy attending.
- A wide range of equipment and play resources create a stimulating environment in which the children want to investigate and explore. Play resources are well maintained, safe and suitable for their purpose. Children are able to access resources, and make independent play choices, and therefore develop self confidence.

What needs to be improved?

- the range of healthy snacks, taking into account nutrition, individual preferences and arrangements to clearly identify children with allergies and special dietary requirements
- deployment of staff in relation to: the toilet area; the large physical play area; and children's arrival at the start of the session
- observation by staff of when children are becoming less interested, in order to reduce opportunities for inappropriate behaviour; for example, during circle time or when the children have experienced all available activities.
- knowledge of current child protection guidelines
- safety, in relation to areas not intended for children to access.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
8	Plan healthy and nutritious snacks, taking into account individual preferences, and ensure that details relating to allergies are clearly available to all staff.
2	Ensure the deployment of staff fully protects children's safety at all times, specifically with regards to accessibility of areas not supervised or unsuitable, the large physical play area, and children's entrance at the start of the session.
11	Develop staff observation of children with regards to attention levels, in order to reduce opportunities for inappropriate behaviour; for example, during circle time or when the children have experienced all available activities.
13	Ensure that all staff understand current guidelines with regards to child protection in order to ensure that correct procedures are followed if required.

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.