



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY255108

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/09/2004
Inspector Name Kerry Durkin

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Herrick Playgroup
Setting Address Lockerbie Avenue
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE4 7NJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Herrick Playgroup 1027218

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Herrick Playgroup
Address Lockerbie Avenue
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE4 7NJ

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

Herrick Playgroup opened in 1990. It is based in a mobile in the grounds of Herrick School in the Rushey Mead area of Leicester. The playgroup serves the local community and provides places for children who attend Herrick school.

There are currently 15 children on roll aged two and a half years. The setting provides places for funded 3 and 4 year olds although none attend at present.

The setting opens five days a week during term time. Sessions are from 08:50 until 11:20 and 11:35 until 15:15. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

Four staff work with the children all of whom have early years qualifications to a NVQ level 3. The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Leicester City Early Years' Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Herrick Playgroup offers good quality childcare. There are good systems in place for on-going staff training and development. Staff are committed to developing and improving their practice they take part in relevant training courses such as child protection and equal opportunities. Well written policies and clear procedures are in place although the written procedure for emergency medical advice/treatment lacks necessary details. The layout of the room provides a comfortable environment where children are able to access a range of toys, equipment and resources independently.

Staff prioritise children's safety and supervision and there is a comprehensive risk assessment in place. Staff effectively promote children's health and hygiene. Good consistent routines are in place and help children to learn, for example, how to wash their hands. Staff place high priority in promoting equal opportunities. There are effective arrangements in place to support children and their families who speak English as an additional language. Staff give good attention in meeting children's individual needs and ensure children are valued and respected.

A variety of well planned and interesting activities encourage children's learning and development. Staff support children in their play they spend time talking and listening to them and encourage their confidence and self esteem. A calm and relaxed environment together with clear and consistent methods for behaviour management helps children to learn to share and to be kind and considerate of

others.

Staff establish good relationships with parents. Good records are in place containing important information. Parents participation in the toy library and book loan scheme ensure they are actively involved with their children's learning. There are regular opportunities for parents to share their views and contribute to their children's care and development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the playgroup were asked to complete two actions regarding documentation. The complaints procedure has been updated and now includes contact details of Ofsted and is available to parents. The child protection policy has been reviewed and procedures for staff are clearly stated. This ensures parents are well informed of the correct procedures to follow in the event of a complaint and that staff procedures are in place with regard to child protection.

What is being done well?

- Staff have positive relationships with parents and carers. There are good procedures in place to encourage parents participation in the playgroup together with effective systems to encourage parents contributions and views.
- Staff's promotion of equal opportunities is a strength of the playgroup and good support is given to children and parents. They ensure all children are included and that their individual needs are met.
- Staff are involved and committed to improving their practice and regularly take part in on-going training and development.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for written parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment

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	request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment

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.