



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY258082

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/02/2005
Inspector Name Karen Cockings

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name St. Martins Day Nursery
Setting Address Pontefract Road
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S71 5PN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of St. Martins Day Nursery

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St. Martins Day Nursery
Address Pontefract Road
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S71 5PN

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 Martins Day Nursery was registered in 2003. It is a privately owned setting which is situated in the Lundwood area of Barnsley and serves families living in the surrounding area. The nursery provides a combination of full day and sessional care for pre-school children, including babies from three months old, and out of school/holiday care for children up to the age of eleven years.

The nursery operates from single storey premises located on Pontefract Road, close to the Priory Campus Centre, shops, bus routes and other local amenities. The main playroom has a separate enclosed space for the two year olds with adjoining play and sleep rooms for the under twos. There are three additional rooms which are used by the out of school club. Outdoor play is available on site within a fully enclosed play area.

The setting is open every weekday between 08:00 and 18:00, throughout the year except for Bank Holidays and is able to care for a maximum of 42 children in the nursery and 16 in the out of school provision. There are currently 37 children on roll in the nursery, of whom 10 are in receipt of nursery education funding. There are no children attending at present with special needs or who have English as an additional language. Thirteen children attend the out of school club currently and they are collected from Littleworth Infants and Grange Gate Junior Schools.

A team of eight staff work with the children, all of whom have relevant early years qualifications or are working towards them. Two staff work with the school age children and both are working towards Level 3 Playwork qualifications. A cook and administrative staff are also employed. The setting receives support from the Local Authority and is participating in the National Day Nurseries Quality Assurance Scheme.

How good is the Day Care?

St Martins Day Nursery provides a good standard of care for children.

Staff work very well together to create a warm and stimulating environment for children, where they are able to play freely and to gain independence with daily routines. They have access to a wide range of resources in well planned play areas which support their learning and development. The setting is very well organised with an enthusiastic management and staff team who are committed to ongoing

professional development. Most procedures are well documented and implemented effectively.

The safety and welfare of the children are given high priority. Staff are deployed well to enable them to give good levels of supervision. Effective measures are taken to keep the environment safe and to comply with any health and safety requirements. Staff maintain very good standards of hygiene: checks and cleaning schedules are carefully followed and children are encouraged with handwashing routines. The setting takes particular care to promote healthy eating patterns through the provision of varied and nutritious meals and snacks.

Staff plan and provide a wide range of interesting activities to promote children's learning through play. There is regular access to the outdoor play area which is used very well by all age groups. Established daily routines give children a sense of security but staff are also keen to ensure that plans and routines offer flexibility to give children freedom to develop their own play. Staff interactions with children are lively and positive and children's behaviour is managed well, with an emphasis on building their self esteem.

The partnership with parents works well. Useful material is provided for them about the setting and good use is made of noticeboards and newsletters to keep parents informed. Staff talk regularly with parents about children's development and open days are organised so that records can be shared with them.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- The environment is warm, welcoming and well organised to provide stimulating play opportunities for children of all ages. Colourful decorations and attention to detail help to create interesting and child friendly play spaces. The outdoor area is used well and suitable resources are available to enable children to enjoy it in most weather conditions. For example, a gazebo and secure seating area are provided for the babies on sunny days and the older children enjoy using torches there on dark evenings to search for mini-beasts.
- Careful attention is given to children's safety. Risk assessments are conducted and accident records regularly reviewed to ensure that any hazards can be quickly addressed.
- Resources are varied and interesting. They are used well to promote learning and to provide older children with opportunities to relax, have fun and learn new skills when they attend after school. The nursery children very much enjoy Martin the Bear. They can take him home for special events such as birthday parties and holidays. He provides a stimulus for conversation, develops the nursery's links with children's home and families and enhances their knowledge of the world around them. Music of different styles

is used to stimulate children's imaginative and creative play and to soothe.

- Staff build strong relationships with children. They have a positive approach, encouraging children to behave well and to consider the needs and feelings of others. The grouping of children and the management of transitions help children to feel secure. There are regular opportunities for children to be together in family type groups.
- Children's dietary needs are addressed very well. A cook is employed by the setting and a well planned menu ensures that children enjoy balanced and nutritious meals. Staff ensure they are informed about any particular dietary requirements so that appropriate foods can be served.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for child protection with particular regard to the measures to be taken if an allegation is made against a member of staff
- the further development of opportunities for parents to be involved in their children's learning
- the information available about communicable diseases for staff reference.

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 have been no complaints reported to Ofsted since April 2004.

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	Develop the information available about communicable diseases and

	ensure there are procedures in place for informing Ofsted of these circumstances.
12	Continue to develop links between home and nursery to encourage parents involvement in their children's learning.
13	Review the policy for child protection to ensure there are clear procedures in place for informing Ofsted if an allegation is made against a member of staff.

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.