



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 314067

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/11/2004
Inspector Name Elizabeth Blenkhorn

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Bowes Pre-School
Setting Address Bowes Hutchinson CE Aided School
Barnard Castle
Co Durham
DL12 9LG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Bowes Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Bowes Pre-School
Address Bowes Pre School
Bowes Hutchinhson C of E Aided School
Barnard Castle
Durham
DL12 9LG

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

Bowes Pre school opened in October 1993. It operates from the building used as the school canteen and school hall and the building known as Woodpecker cottage, adjacent to the school, within the school yard, in the village of Bowes. A maximum of 20 children may attend the pre-school at any one time. The pre-school is open each weekday, during term-time, 09:00 to 13:00 two days and 09:00 to 15:30 three days. Children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently 20 children aged from two years to school age on roll and one child under two years. This includes seven funded three year olds. Children attend from the local and surrounding areas. There are presently no children attending with special educational needs nor who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school employ four staff. Three have a recognised early years qualification and one member of staff is working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Bowes Pre-school provide good care for children. Staff understand their responsibilities under the National Standards and work well together. They are enthusiastic and committed to continuing to develop their skills and knowledge through training.

The setting is warm, welcoming and well equipped with suitable furniture and play materials for the children who attend.

There are clear policies and procedures to support the running of the setting, although the complaints policy and staff register needs further development. Effective systems are in place to keep all records stipulated by the National Standards.

Staff pay attention to children's safety and welfare. They ensure that children are safe and secure through controlled access to the group and safety checks on the premises. They have suitable health and hygiene practices and medication procedures in place. Children are offered a variety of nutritious snacks with attention paid to any special dietary needs.

Children's individual and special needs are recognised and met well.

Children take part in enjoyable and stimulating play activities which have regard for all aspects of their development. The relationship between staff and children is warm, supportive and encouraging. Staff have a positive approach to managing children's behaviour and children behave very well.

Staff and parents work well together to meet the needs of the children. They share written and verbal information effectively and as a result children receive secure and consistent care.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, there were a number of actions relating to health and safety and documentation. The group has carried out a risk assessment covering the identified areas and put measures in place which address the issues, ensuring that children are safe on the premises. Documentation and record keeping have been reviewed and relevant records are now kept.

What is being done well?

- Staff work well together and are keen to continue to improve the quality of the group. They give time and effort to training in order to increase their skills and knowledge, benefiting the children they care for.
- The premises are bright, attractive and welcoming, with children's art work well displayed. Space is used effectively, with the main room divided into areas of learning activity and an interesting and stimulating outdoor play area for active play. Children can move around freely.
- Children take part in enjoyable activities and play opportunities which take account of their ages and stages of development and help them to make progress in all areas. Staff support and encourage the children in their play and children are happy and settled.
- The staff have a sensitive and responsive approach to the children. Their calm and consistent approach to behaviour management takes account of children's ages and understanding. They are positive, using praise and encouragement with the result that the children learn what is expected of them and behave well.
- The relationship between staff and parents is good. Parents are made welcome and there are effective systems for sharing information about how the group operates and their children's experiences.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements for registration to show when staff are present
- the complaints procedure to include Ofsted details.

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.)

Since 1st April 2004 Ofsted have not received any complaints about this provider

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
2	Ensure arrangements for registration show when staff are present.
14	Ensure complaints procedure contains Ofsted details.

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.