



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 115379

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	22/11/2004
Inspector Name	Lara Hickson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	United Reformed Church Playgroup
Setting Address	United Reformed Church Hall Kelvin Road Welling Kent DA16 2EH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of The Committee of United Reformed Church Playgroup
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Committee of United Reformed Church Playgroup
Address	United Reformed Church Hall Kelvin Road Welling Kent DA16 2EH

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

The United Reformed Church Playgroup has been in operation since March 1968 and under the present management since 1981. It operates from the Church Hall in Kelvin Road Welling, close to the local high street shops and serves families from the local community and surrounding area. The playgroup also has the use of a smaller side room for stories, a kitchen area and toilet facilities. There is also a small paved area which is used for outdoor activities in fine weather. The playgroup is set up and cleared away at each session as the hall is used by a number of other groups within the local community.

The group is open from 09:15 until 12 noon Monday to Friday during school term times. It is registered to take 24 children aged 2 years to under 5 years, of whom no more than 4 maybe under 3 years. There are five members of staff who work directly with the children on a rota basis. Three members of staff hold a basic childcare qualification.

The playgroup is not registered for children to received funding for nursery education. There are no children currently attending the playgroup who have identified special educational needs. At the present time there is one child on roll who has English as an additional language.

How good is the Day Care?

United Reformed Church Playgroup provides children with satisfactory care. The staff team provide a warm and caring environment where children and their families feel welcome. A keyworker system is in place and staff know the children well and are aware of individual needs. An appropriate range of activities and resources are set out prior to the children arriving. However, the layout of the room and staff deployment is disorganised and does not enhance children's play and learning opportunities.

Although the staff team are very experienced they only have basic qualifications and none currently hold a valid first aid qualification. The staff team use basic child observations to monitor and evaluate the children's progress and development. Planning systems provide very little variation to meet the needs of either children developing at different levels of development or those attending for the majority of the sessions available. Large group activities for story and singing are not beneficial or effective for all children.

A high regard is given to safety issues within the setting and a formal risk assessment system is in place. The staff team are aware of their role with regards to health issues and a written sickness policy is in place. Children are supported in developing good personal hygiene practices. There are procedures in place to support children with special needs and the playgroup has an equal opportunities policy in operation.

Partnership with parents is good. There are informal methods in place to ensure that parents are kept informed about children's progress and development. Parents are given information about the setting when their child joins the group and there is a parents noticeboard with relevant information and procedures.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Some progress has been made since the last inspection. A formal risk assessment and a written evacuation procedure are now in place. A written statement on Special Needs has been drawn up and made available to parents. Information in the Playgroups policies and procedures now informs parents of how they can contact Ofsted in the event of a complaint.

The playgroup now keeps a record of significant incidents.

Very limited progress has been made regarding Child Protection since the last inspection. The playgroup has not developed staff's knowledge of Child Protection and there is currently no trained member of staff responsible for child protection issues.

What is being done well?

- The positive relationships between the staff and the children create a warm, comfortable environment for the children to experiment and explore.
- Staff demonstrated a good knowledge of health and safety issues. Effective security systems are in place.
- Staff work closely with parents and make good efforts to include them in the activities of the group.
- The canteen style refreshment time promotes and enhances the children's independence and self confidence.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements for ensuring that sufficient staff hold appropriate qualifications and are deployed appropriately
- the reorganisation of the room and an effective system for planning and implementing a suitable range of appropriate activities to ensure that each child's individual needs are met
- the procedure for recording all accidents which occur within the setting

- staff awareness and understanding of behavioural issues and the importance of consistency and effective communication regarding behaviour management
- the staff's knowledge and understanding of the child protection procedures and referral process

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
2	Develop and implement an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met and how supervisors will achieve a level 3 qualification. Reorganise the room and ensure staff are deployed effectively in order to ensure that children's play and learning opportunities are met.
3	Devise a system for planning and implementing a suitable range of activities for children, which is appropriate for their stage of development and based on their individual needs.
7	Ensure that all accidents are recorded promptly in the accident book.
11	Develop staff's awareness and understanding of effective ways to manage children's behaviour.
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and local ACPC procedures

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.