



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 133403

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	25/05/2004
Inspector Name	Gillian Little

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Kennington Playgroup (The)
Setting Address	Old School Buildings St Swithun's School, The Avenue, Kennington Oxford Oxfordshire OX1 5PP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Address	THE KENNINGTON PLAYGROUP OLD SCHOOL BUILDINGS, ST SWITHUN'S SCHOOL, THE AVENUE, KENNINGTON OXFORD OXON OX1 5PP

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

Kennington Playgroup opened in 1969. It operates from two rooms in school buildings in the centre of the village. The playgroup serves the local area.

There are currently 35 children from 2 to 5 years on roll including funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five mornings a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 until 12:00.

Six part-time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level two or three. Two staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a development worker from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

The playgroup provides good quality care for children. There are suitable procedures in place for employing and checking staff. There are sufficient numbers of qualified staff and they have regular opportunities for on-going training. The premises are well maintained and provide a welcoming, safe and secure environment. There is a good range of safe and clean toys and resources. Most of the required paperwork is in place and there is a range of additional paperwork to ensure the safe and efficient management of the provision.

The staff ensure that children are safe at all times. The premises are clean and hygienic. Staff help the children to learn about health and hygiene. The staff take appropriate steps when children are ill but require further training to administer certain types of medication. The playgroup provides children with regular snacks and drinks which are healthy and nutritious. There are effective procedures in place to deal with child protection concerns.

The playgroup offers a wide range of stimulating activities across all learning areas. Staff know children well and are able to meet their individual needs. Staff spend their time playing with and talking to the children which helps to develop good relationships. The playgroup promotes equal opportunities for staff and children. The

staff help children to learn about people in the world around them through suitable topics, displays and resources. Staff use suitable methods to deal with difficult behaviour. They recognise and praise positive behaviour.

The playgroup develops good partnerships with parents who are happy with the care it provides.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This section is not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The playgroup premises are bright, cheerful and welcoming. The two playrooms are colourfully decorated and staff make good use of the available space e.g. a cosy book corner and a well-resourced home corner. The staff ensure that both indoor and outdoor spaces are used fully. They provide resources outside such as bikes and cars but also activities such as junk modelling and jigsaws. They also provide physical play indoors such as a balancing beam and a climbing frame. This encourages all the children to take part in a wide range of activities and helps them to develop a range of skills.
- The staff spend their time playing with the children and talking to them to help develop their thinking and vocabulary. They ask children questions and help to extend discussions. They give children opportunities to develop early skills in maths, language and science e.g. growing seeds and exploring the concept of big, medium and small. They display work so that children can continue to learn from it e.g. collections of shells and fir cones; a display of clocks made by the children. This all helps the children to progress across all learning areas.
- The staff are kind, caring and patient. They create a settled yet busy environment where children feel comfortable and relaxed. They give children lots of praise and encouragement. They ensure that new children have lots of reassurance and attention. They use appropriate strategies to deal with any unwanted behaviour and they help children to understand behavioural rules. They encourage children to share, take turns and to say "please" and "thank you".
- The playgroup ensures that children are safe at all times. There are high handles and alarms on all external doors and the outside area is kept secure when children have access to it. The staff are vigilant when children arrive and leave the group and supervise the children well at all times. They carry out regular fire drills and are aware of health and safety issues.

What needs to be improved?

- confirmation of clearances for all staff

- staff training by a health professional for certain types of medication
- telephone numbers to be added to some policies
- availability of new policies to parents.

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
1	Ensure that evidence of clearances for all staff is available in the group.
7	Ensure that staff are trained by a qualified health professional to administer medication which requires technical/medical knowledge.

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.