



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 131737

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	22/02/2005
Inspector Name	Victoria Vasiliadis

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St Augustines Playgroup
Setting Address	108 Highbury New Park London N5 2DR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St Augustines Playgroup
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St Augustines Playgroup
Address	108 Highbury New Park London N5 2DR

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 Augustine's Playgroup opened in 1962 and operates from one large room within a church hall in a residential area of Islington. A maximum of 24 children may attend the group at any one time. The group is open each weekday from 09:30 to 12:00, term time only.

There are currently ten children aged from three to under five years on roll. Of these eight children receive funding for nursery education. Children attend from the local community. The group currently support a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The group employs three staff. All of whom, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

The setting is supported by the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, they are also members of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

St. Augustine's Playgroup provides unsatisfactory care for children. This is due to the following reasons: the provider has failed to notify Ofsted of staff changes and regulatory documentation are not being maintained. These are breaches of regulations set as part of the Children Act 1989 Part XA.

Staff interact appropriately with children. Children are spoken to in a positive and respectful manner, they are listened to and frequently praised and encouraged.

The provision provides children with a good range of activities that support and stimulate children's all round development. Resources are well organised allowing the children to make choices and decisions, and reflect positive images of culture, race, gender and disability.

Appropriate systems are in place to ensure the premises are kept secure. However staff are not deployed effectively to ensure the safe supervision of the children and not all hazards have been identified by the setting. The setting also need to review their hygiene practices and procedures.

All staff hold appropriate child care qualifications. However the setting does not carry out health checks on new staff to ensure they are suitable physically and mentally to

care for children.

Parents are kept informed through verbal communication with staff and the use of a notice board. However the group do not have in place the policies and procedures as required under the National Standards.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were no actions set from the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- Children are spoken to in a positive and respectful manner, they are listened to and frequently praised and encouraged
- The provision provides children with a good range of activities that support and stimulate children's all round development. Resources are well organised allowing the children to make choices and decisions, and reflect positive images.
- Parents are kept informed through verbal communication with staff and the use of a notice board.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for maintaining the required policies and statements identified in the National Standards for Sessional Care
- the procedures for ensuring new staff are suitable both mentally and physically to care for children
- the procedures for notifying Ofsted of changes in staff within the required timeframes
- the hygiene practices and procedures
- the deployment of staff to ensure the safe supervision of the children and the identifying of potential hazards.

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 recorded since 1st April 2004.

Outcome of the inspection

Unsatisfactory

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
1	Inform Ofsted about any changes to the person in charge or to adults who work or live on the premises, within the set time frames.	22/02/2005
2	Ensure staff are deployed effectively to promote the safety of children at all times.	22/02/2005
2	Write a procedure to be followed in the event of a child being lost.	22/02/2005
6	Minimise risks to children by carrying out regular risk assessments on the premises.	22/02/2005
14	Keep all records as required and set out in the National Standards for Sessional Care.	22/02/2005

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	Maintain registers that are accurate and record hours of attendance.
7	Review hygiene practices and procedures.
7	Write a policy and procedures for the exclusion of children who are ill and for administering medication. Request written permission from parents for the seeking of emergency medical advice or treatment.
11	Ensure the behaviour management statement includes methods to deal with bullying.
12	Ensure the complaints procedures include details of Ofsted.

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.