



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 310484

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/02/2005
Inspector Name	Frank William Kelly

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St Lukes Playgroup
Setting Address	71 Liverpool Road Crosby Liverpool Merseyside L23 5SE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Jacqueline Crosbie
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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 Luke's Playgroup is run by an individual provider.

It has been registered to the current provider since 1999. It operates from two rooms in a church hall. It is situated near to Crosby Village, which is North of the City of Liverpool. A maximum of 40 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. The playgroup is open Monday to Friday from 09:20 to 11:50, term time only. There is no outdoor play area.

There are currently 49 children aged from two to four years on roll. Children mainly come from the local area.

The playgroup employs six staff. Three staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. None are currently completing child care awards.

How good is the Day Care?

St Luke's Playgroup provides satisfactory overall care for the children.

The setting has some formal and many informal policies and procedures, which help the established staff group to work well as a team. They organise good daily care for the children. However, the setting has no formal staff support systems or training plans. Currently there is not sufficient suitably qualified staff to meet the requirements of the National Standards. Some policies lack detail. The staff are very friendly and greet children and visitor's warmly. The children run into the setting eager to play. There is a good selection of resources, which are rotated regularly. Children make many independent choices of what is available to them. Some reflect the diversity of today's society.

Staff follow the safety procedures well and make security a priority, supervising the children vigilantly. They take actions to check the premises on a daily basis. There are good procedures for helping to prevent the spread of infection. The children are learning to attend to their personal hygiene well. However, there are no staff who currently hold an approved first aid certificate. Staff demonstrate an understanding of providing appropriate care for children with special needs. The child protection policy lacks detail.

Staff have established good relationships with the children. The children are relaxed

and confidently share their needs and wishes. The children enjoy a variety of activities, within which they can actively participate. They sing songs with much pleasure and familiarity. Staff encourage the children's behaviour very well and the children are occupied, learning to share and show respect for each other.

There are formal and informal systems in place for the sharing of information between staff and parents. Parents are relaxed and familiar with the routines in the playgroup.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting agreed to develop policies and procedures as required by the 14 National Standards. In addition it agreed to implement action plans to help the manager achieve an appropriate child care qualification. It also agreed to address identified risks within the premises.

Since then the setting has made some progress towards developing required policies and procedures in particular those relating to standard 7 - Health. These are shared with parents and contribute to the consistent care provided. Further development of written procedures is planned.

The manager has completed an approved level 3 child care course. Additional training for other members of staff is to be organised for the near future.

The setting has made very good progress addressing the safety issues within the premises. Safety has been improved by removing and replacing worn rugs and other trip hazards and by fitting all strip lighting with approved diffuser covers.

What is being done well?

- The staff manage the children's behaviour well. The staff are polite and courteous to all present. They present positive role models to the children. They engage the children well, keep them fully occupied and interested. They are learning to share and be considerate of each other.
- Staff organise the resources and playroom to create a warm, welcoming and stimulating environment for the children. They are eager to arrive. They separate from their parents very quickly and confidently. The children have secure and confident relationships with their carer's. The children enjoy sharing what they have or are going to do with the adults present. For example two children excitedly talked about their forthcoming visit to the Wacky Warehouse. The staff show interest in, and respond to, what the children have to say.
- There is good informal parental partnership. Staff are warm and friendly. They take time to share information with parents during arrival and collection times. Information shared is used to help form the base for care, which meets the individual child's needs.

What needs to be improved?

- the staff qualifications to meet the national standards
- the provision of staff with first aid training
- the documentation with regards to the formal policies for special needs, the information reflecting "What to do if a child is abused summary" within in the child protection procedure, the information in the operational plan, and the availability of policies and other information relating to the setting
- the risk assessments
- procedures for when a child is lost/missing.

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 are no complaints to report.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
2	develop an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met	30/06/2005
7	develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate will be on the premises or on outings at any one time	31/03/2005

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

Std	Recommendation
2	formalise the operational plan to include all aspects of how the setting is organised. Aim to include all elements as suggested on Page 11 within the guidance document.
6	update risk assessments and maintain daily checklists.
14	prepare a written statement of the procedures to be followed in the event of a child being lost and revise policies and procedures and organise so that they are easily accessible to staff and parents.

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.