



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY234457

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/09/2004
Inspector Name Gyatri Rupal

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Rowans School Pre-School
Setting Address Rowans
Welwyn Garden City
Herts
AL7 1NZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Rowans School Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Rowans School Pre-School
Address Rowans JMI School
Rowans
Welwyn Garden City
Herts
AL7 1NZ

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

Rowans Pre-School opened in October 2000. The pre-school operates from Rowan JMI(Primary)School, in the "Haldens" area of Welwyn Garden City.

The pre- school is only open in the afternoons, utilizing the room which the school uses for reception class. One big room is used mainly by the pre-school children during its operational hours. Occasionally the pre-school children also have the opportunity to use the school's support hall and kitchen facilities with close supervision. There is a fenced outside area for outdoor activities.

The pre-school also provides lunch club facilities for children. The lunch club is open Monday to Friday from 12:00 to 12:45 and the pre-school session is from Monday to Friday 12:45 to 15:15 during school term only.

There are currently 16 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 3 funded 3 years old and 7 children funded 4 years old. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The pre-school receives support from a school teacher.

There are four staff working with the children. Two managers who job share and two pre- school play workers. One manager and two play workers are always present to work with the children. On Wednesday both managers and both play workers are present.

How good is the Day Care?

The Rowans Pre-School provides good care for children.

The pre-school provides children with a safe, stimulating and caring environment which the children enjoy attending. The space and play resources are effectively organised to provide a variety of activities and play opportunities for children.

The staff take positive steps to promote safety and are conscious of their responsibility to keep children safe. They encourage children to practise good hygiene. The risk assessments help minimise any risk of injury to children on the site and a system is in place to ensure children are collected by a responsible adult. Children's individual needs are identified and met very well.

Each session and activities are well planned, and provide opportunities for children to develop their self- esteem and help them to learn. There are many opportunities

for children to talk about their experiences throughout the session and quality of interaction between staff and children is excellent. Staff praise effort, achievement and appropriate behaviour. The children are confident, friendly and well occupied with their play.

The pre-school enjoys a good partnership with the parents; due to friendly staff forming positive relationships with the parents. The staff often chat informally with the parents about their child on a daily basis and parents can have access to their child's progress records at any time. Additional information is given in a booklet, notice board, and there are also regular newsletters. Most of the policies and procedures are well documented and the majority of the required documentation is in place. The parents' comments on Ofsted questionnaires are very positive and complimentary.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- The Rowans Pre-School provides a good range of learning resources and play equipment which helps children to develop in all areas of learning, meeting each child's individual needs and promotes their self-esteem and mathematical thinking.
- All play resources are easily accessible by the children. The children are occupied in play opportunities that are fun, interesting and provide challenge. The pre-school children make good use of the large play room. Staff ensure the area is used to its full potential and children are confident and secure in their surroundings.
- A good variety of different activities are set-up where children can explore new experiences and learn to use language to describe and communicate their thinking. Children are supported by staff who provide praise and encouragement throughout the session. Children are observed trying new skills with appropriate support from the staff in the group. This helps the children to feel confident and secure whilst in a small group.
- Each session includes work in small groups which ensure that children have plenty of individual attention, but there are also ample opportunities for children to work independently, or to work together on their own projects without adult direction.

What needs to be improved?

- child protection procedure
- registration system for children and staff showing times of arrival and departure

- parents consent for emergency medical treatment.

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
14	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment. Record times of arrival and departure for staff and children.
13	Make sure that the child protection statement is based on procedures laid out in the Government booklet 'What to Do If You're Worried A Child Is Being Abused'. It should also include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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.