



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127599

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/03/2004
Inspector Name Freeda Wildon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care, Full Day Care
Setting Name St. Margarets Nursery and Afterschool Club
Setting Address St. Margarets-at-Cliffe Cp School
Sea Street, St. Margarets-at-Cliffe
Dover
Kent
CT15 6SS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of St Margarets Nursery and After School Club

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St Margarets Nursery and After School Club
Address Sea Street
Sea Street, St. Margarets-at-Cliffe
Dover
Kent
CT15 6SS

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 Margaret's Day Nursery and Out of School Club opened in 1992. It operates from a large mobile in the grounds of the local school in St Margaret's near Dover, Kent. The Nursery serves the local area.

There are currently 48 children on roll. This includes 11 funded 4-year-old children and 15 funded 3-year-old children.

Children attend a variety of sessions each week. The provision has experience caring for children with special needs and children speaking English as an additional language.

The provision opens five days a week, term time only. They operate from 08.00 to 18.00, Monday to Friday. Out of school hours are 08.00 to 08.35 and 15.15 to 18.00. Pre-school children attend from 08.45 to 15.00.

Out of twelve staff that work with the children, seven of hold an early years qualification and have attended short courses. Two other members of staff are currently attending qualification courses. The group receives support from a Pre-school Learning Alliance development worker and a teacher from the Early Years Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

St Margaret's Nursery and After School Club provides good care.

Several staff are qualified and experienced, and work well as a team supported by committee members. Space, staff and resources are well organised to meet the children's needs effectively. The environment is warm and welcoming to children and parents. Policies, procedures and records underpin the day to day running of the provision. However, the recording of the register is not in line with current guidance and the lost or uncollected is not completed.

Premises are safe and clean, with procedures in place to identify and eliminate hazards. Health and hygiene procedures are effective. Staff promote children's independence and children can visit the toilet independently, however there are no facilities for nappy changing. Not all of the staff have up to date knowledge of child protection procedures.

Children are happy to enter the nursery and approach staff confidently. The quality of staff: child interaction is good, with adults working closely with the children, supporting and extending their play and learning. Children are happy and stimulated, with planned, exciting activities covering all areas of development, and opportunities for small group work. Staff use observations to plan for children's next steps in play and learning. The SENCO shows a good understanding of special needs and staff have experience working with children with special needs. There are resources and activities, which reflect the diversity of society. Staff manage behaviour positively and consistently, resulting in good behaviour.

Partnership with parents is good and parents are happy with the standard of care and the exchange of information about their children's development and activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The last inspection was a transitional inspection, this section is not appropriate.

What is being done well?

- Several of the staff are qualified and are keen to attend short courses; others are attending training to gain qualifications.
- Staff have a good knowledge of the areas of development, which results in children having opportunities to take part in a good range of activities supporting their language, mathematical thinking, imagination and creativity.
- Staff challenge children's thinking, support imaginative play, praise and value achievements, listen to children, and act as positive role models. As a result, children are confident, able to act independently.
- The environment, space, resources and staffing are organised so that a variety of toys and equipment are accessible to the children. Parents and children are made to feel welcome, and children can move freely between planned and free play activities, which support all areas of their learning. They have open access to in and out door play and are able to move freely between the two.
- Toys and equipment are used to provide a balanced range of activities based on all the areas of learning and children were using the low storage to select their own activities. The after school club children have opportunities to take part in vigorous activities as well as relaxation
- Health, safety and hygiene procedures fully understood and consistently implemented by staff, resulting in a hazard free environment
- Staff have good strategies in place to manage children's behaviour. They are positive and consistent, staff deployment and quality of activities result in children who are generally well behaved. The after school club children adhere to the same rules as the school.
- Partnership with parents is good and parents are happy with the standard of care and the exchange of information about their children's development and activities.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Not applicable.

What needs to be improved?

- attendance register so that it records staff attendances
- staff knowledge of child protection procedures
- changing facilities that ensure privacy.

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
10	Provide changing facilities in place that ensure privacy.
13	Ensure that all staff have up to date knowledge of child protection 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.