



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 100605

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 28/06/2004
Inspector Name Catherine Greene

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Woodentots Montessori School
Setting Address 6 Rochester Road
London
NW1 9JH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Woodentots Montessori Limited 04309360

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Woodentots Montessori Limited
Address 1148 High Road
MountView Court
Wheystone
London
N20 0RA

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

Woodentots Montessori nursery has been registered since 1989. They offer part-time and full day care for 12 children aged 2 - 5 years. The nursery is in the basement of a house with an open plan group room, kitchen, separate adult and children's toilets and garden.

Opening times are 09:00 - 15:00 with sessions from 09:00 - 12:00 and 12:00 - 15:00 term time.

The group uses Montessori methods of teaching, there are three permanent staff members, who hold Montessori Diplomas, two of the three staff have an NVQ level 3 certificate, the other staff member is currently undertaking NVQ3. The provision offers placements to Montessori students.

There are currently 12 children on role some of these are funded 3-4 year olds. The setting supports children with special educational needs and children whose first language is not English.

How good is the Day Care?

Woodentots Montessori nursery provides good quality childcare for children aged 2-5 years.

The nursery has an established and well-organised staff team who work closely together, sharing skills and supporting each others professional development and childcare practice. The Nursery School is well-organised, the manager and staff are qualified with Montessori Diplomas. They receive ongoing training to support their childcare skills and professional development. Good deployment of staff ensures that appropriate ratios are maintained.

There is a good selection of Montessori play materials, books and equipment made with natural materials. Stimulating and challenging activities are planned that link to the Montessori approach to learning and are suitable for the age range. Staff are committed to children's social development and learning, working in small groups. The nursery is well-organised to maximise space and the garden has been designed to provide a sensory environment that encourages imaginery play and is largely included in planning throughout the year.

Maintenance of the building and cleaning standards are good with staff members

carrying out daily risk assessments and cleaning duties.

A member of staff is responsible for children with special needs. Staff work closely with specialists and other professionals to ensure that appropriate and consistent procedures are followed. This has a positive impact on children's development.

The Parents Handbook has clear policies and procedures for the smooth, safe running of the service and promotes a good understanding of relationship between the parents, children and staff. The staff have regular meetings with the parents to discuss their children's overall learning and development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Safety guidelines have been devised for the re-heating of food in the microwave.

The first aid box is complete ensuring that should an accident occur sufficient resources are available.

The steps down to the entrance have been repaired which has helped in ensuring a safe environment.

What is being done well?

- There effective plans to further improve the garden which is used to extend children's learning across the curriculum throughout the year.
- The attractive displays of children's work contribute to the stimulating and welcoming child-centred environment. Children are provided with a large and varied range of toys and play material, including those aimed at promoting positive images of people of different religions, cultures, genders, social backgrounds and disabilities.
- There are strong links with parents, regular feedback is given about the child's overall development and learning. Effective systems of recording children's development are in place to ensure that each child's individual needs are identified.
- Children's records are used to inform planning of a stimulating range of activities, that offer an appropriate level of challenge to each child.
- The positive relationships between staff and children create a warm, comfortable environment for children to experiment and explore.

What needs to be improved?

- the continued implementation of plans to improve the layout and design of the garden to maximise the potential for children to use it throughout the year.

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 |
|-----|--|
| 4 | Continue the good practice to develop and implement the plans you have to improve the layout of the garden area. |

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.