



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113602

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/01/2005
Inspector Name Teresa Elkington

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Milton Mount Playgroup
Setting Address Milton Mount Community Centre
Milton Mount Avenue, Pound Hill
Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 3DY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Milton Mount Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Milton Mount Playgroup
Address Milton Mount Community Centre
Milton Mount
Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 3DY

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

Milton Mount Playgroup provides sessional care for children aged between three to five years of age. The facility operates within the Milton Mount Community Centre which is situated in the Pound Hill area of Crawley. It comprises of a large hall, toilet facilities which include facilities for the disabled and a kitchen area. Children also have access to an enclosed outside area.

The playgroup provides care and education for 24 children aged 3-5 years old at each session and there are currently 41 children on the roll, which includes several children aged three and four years who receive funding for nursery education. Children attend for a variety of sessions each week from the immediate and surrounding areas of the facility.

The facility opens for 5 days a week, providing morning and afternoon sessions. The playgroup is open term-time only.

Staff working within the group have experience of childcare, with some holding qualifications or working towards relevant qualifications. All Staff members have First Aid Certificates and have attended Child Protection Training. The playgroup is run by a Committee of parents whose children attend the group.

How good is the Day Care?

Milton Mount Playgroup provides good quality care for children. Most playgroup staff are qualified or are undertaking training courses. The playgroup provides a warm, welcoming and friendly environment, making the children feel confident and secure. A clear awareness of safety is acknowledged by all staff and precautions are in place to safe guard the children. Well established hygiene routines ensure that children's health and well being are promoted at all times.

There are good daily routines in place, which are supported by a range of appropriate resources and play equipment. Activities are planned around a theme, the children are given varied opportunities for free play activities and structured, adult lead activities. Staff are supportive to the needs of the children, and allow many opportunities for children to explore, develop independence and make choices for themselves.

The playgroup promote inclusion for all children and has policies and procedures in

place to support those with special needs and English as an addition language. The staff have a good understanding of Child Protection issues, although not all updated information has been obtained. Staff manage children's behaviour well, which is supported by praise and encouragement given by staff. A clear recruitment and vetting procedure is available and staff undertake an informal induction programme, however no records are in place to show what the induction programme consists of or how staff are appraised.

A partnership approach is adopted between the setting and the parents. Staff ensure that parents are fully informed of their child's day, a written report is given to parents at the end of the session. Parents are actively encouraged to consult with staff regarding their child's progress, they view developmental records, a keyworker system is in place to support this. All policies and procedures are readily available for staff and parents and are kept in line with regulations.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Positive steps have been taken regarding the actions raised at the last inspection; ensure that children are supported by a key worker; make reference in the child protection policy the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member or volunteer.

All children have a keyworker who is responsible for the monitoring of children's individual progress and development.

A clear policy statement is now in place and all staff are aware of the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member or volunteer.

What is being done well?

- Staff are welcoming friendly and have good relationships with the children, to ensure that they feel safe and secure.
- Established hygiene regimes are in place to promote the well being of the children at all time. Staff show a clear awareness of safety within the playgroup, with precautions in place to safe guard the children.
- Good daily routines are in place which offer a varied programme of activities, through the use of appropriate equipment and resources. This ensures that children's individual needs are recognised and met and that all areas of development are built upon.
- All staff manage children's behaviour consistently whilst respecting children's differing levels of understanding. Praise and encouragement is readily given to children to encourage their awareness of right and wrong.
- A partnership approach is adopted to ensure that children are cared for according to parents wishes, which provides a consistent approach to the care of the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the induction and appraisal processes for staff;
- the availability of current child protection committee procedures.

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
2	Provide opportunities for staff to take part in an effective induction and appraisal programme.
13	Ensure that current Area Child Protection Committee's procedures are obtained.

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.