



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY231795

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 27/05/2004  
Inspector Name Barbara Ann Bush

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care  
Setting Name Explore Learning Centre  
Setting Address White Hart Lane  
Springfield  
Chelmsford  
Essex  
CM2 5PA

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Explore Learning Ltd 4117281

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Explore Learning Ltd  
Address 3rd Floor  
74 North Street  
Guildford  
Surrey  
GU1 4AW

## 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

The Explore Learning Centre opened in 2003. It operates from a room inside the Sainsbury's store in Springfield, Chelmsford. The facility serves the local and wider community.

There are currently 350 children aged from four years to under fourteen years on roll. Children attend for two sessions per week. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens seven days a week all year round. Sessions are from 15:00 to 20:00 during term times and 10:00 to 18:00 during holiday periods. Additionally the group opens 10:00 to 16:00 Saturdays and Sundays.

Fifteen part time staff work with the children. All are qualified to work with children on the 'SuccessMaker' computer based curriculum interactive educational tool.

### How good is the Day Care?

Explore Learning Centre provides satisfactory care for children.

The manager and staff members are suitably qualified to provide training in maths, English and computer skills. Each child receives some individual attention from a staff member during the session. Children are encouraged to develop their abilities, confidence and self-esteem. The sessions are held in a single room within a large shopping store. The environment is bright and welcoming for children. The facility provides computers for each child and some play materials for use when work packages have been completed. Records are in order.

The room is risk assessed and hazards are minimised. Children can use the wash rooms and toilets. Meals and snacks are not allowed in the room, however drinking water is available.

Staff members are aware of their responsibilities regarding child protection issues, caring for children with special needs and providing resources that reflect equal opportunities.

Individual work packages are produced for each child. For an hour of each session the children concentrate on completing their assignments. For the final fifteen

minutes of the session they can play with table top toys and games. Parents and staff have a co-ordinated approach to behaviour management.

The staff members have established good working relationships with the parents. Time is made to talk about the children's progress and development. Staff members are aware that confidentiality must be maintained.

#### What has improved since the last inspection?

n/a

#### What is being done well?

- Staff are employed for their expertise in maths, English and computer skills. There is also an expectation that they will be able to support the children and encourage their learning.
- Teaching packages are designed individually for each child. Staff promote the children's self-esteem, confidence and belief in their own abilities.
- Time is made to ensure parents understand the progress their children are making. Very detailed sheets are produced, analysing statistics and advances the children are achieving in each subject.

#### What needs to be improved?

- confidentiality-accident records.

#### 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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
7	Ensure entries in the accident book are confidential

## **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.*