



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY218234

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	30/04/2003
Inspector Name	Susan Patricia Foulger

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	Fordham Pre-School
Setting Address	1 Isleham Road Ely Cambridgeshire CB7 5NL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Fordham Pre-School 291541
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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

<p>Fordham Pre-school opened in 2002 on the site of the primary school in Fordham, a small village, close to Soham. The pre-school has been registered for many years but now operates from a new purpose built premises consisting of a main play room, a smaller computer room, kitchen and toilets, office and lobby. It serves the local population. The pre-school is registered for 26 children aged from 2 years to under 5 years. Children attend from the age of 2 years and 10 months. There are currently 56 children on roll. This includes 25 funded three year olds and six funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. At present there are no children attending who have special needs or any who speak English as a second language. The pre-school opens five days a week, two sessions a day, term time only. Sessions are from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.. Seven staff work with the children, four are almost full time; three are part time. Most of them have early years qualifications. Three have first aid certificates. The pre-school also use a parent helper at each session and take child care students. Staff undertake additional training on a regular basis. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and are a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.</p>
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How good is the Day Care?

<p>Fordham Pre-school provides a satisfactory standard of care overall for children aged 2 years - 5 years. The new building is inviting, spacious and brightly decorated. It is warm and welcoming to both children and parents. Safety and security is considered to be important and children are well supervised. Access to the building is well controlled. Good health is generally promoted, however hygiene practices need to be improved. Staff deployment is effective both inside and outside. Staff work well together. The quality of care for all the children is good. Children are treated as individuals and the staff know them well. Records are kept which help the staff to plan each child's progress. There is a stimulating range and balance of activities which help children make progress in all areas of their development. Children are generally well behaved. Toys and equipment are of a good standard but the children are unable to select their own toys which could hamper their development in self confidence and initiative. Relationships with parents and carers is good. Regular newsletters, half termly reports and the notice board keep parents well informed. The overall organisation of the pre-school is effective. Records and clear policies are in place and the pre-school works to a written operational plan. However, some policies need additions and revisions to bring them up to date.</p>
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What has improved since the last inspection?

The pre-school were asked to write a 'no smoking' policy which they have done so and added to their other policies for parents to see.

What is being done well?

Staff ratios are high and staff are evenly deployed both inside and out. (Standard 2) Security is a high priority and children are monitored at all times. This means that children are kept very safe. (Standard 6). Good use is made of all areas. In the outdoor play space the children are split into two groups which means lower numbers of children using the apparatus at one time. This allows the children more effectively to develop good physical skills and self confidence. (Standard 4) Information for parents is extensive. The noticeboard giving parents advice on how to extend the pre-school activities into the home, is especially good practice. (Standard 12) Parents are kept well informed of their children's progress. (Standard 14)

What needs to be improved?

- access to toys and activities so that children can self select - the library area, both its surroundings and variety and supply of books - the use and siting of the sink in the main play room - the policies and handbooks

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
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The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	To formally identify a named deputy.
5	To make toys and activities more accessible to the children so they can select their own.
5	To make the library more inviting and to join the Children's Library Service.
6	To improve the use and siting of the sink in the main playroom.
14	Review and update policies and the welcome booklet and ensure they are

	showed to parents. This is especially in relation to equal opportunities (Disability Discrimination Act 1995), child protection, complaints, and lost children.
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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.