



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 218261

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 25/06/2003
Inspector Name Rosemary Linda Tomkins

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name THE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP - Committee
Setting Address VILLAGE HALL
PINFOLD LANE, CHESLYN HAY
CANNOCK
STAFFORDSHIRE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name MRS. V HARRIS

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 Village Playgroup opened in 1992. It operates from a large hall and a smaller room in the village hall, which is situated close to the centre of the village of Cheslyn Hay. The playgroup serves the local area.

There are currently 72 children from 2 to 4 years on roll. This includes 30 funded three-year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children with special needs.

The group opens five days a week during school term times and for some days during the Summer school holidays. Sessions are from 9:30 until 12:00, every morning and 12:30 pm until 15:00 on Wednesdays.

Nine sessional staff work with the children. Half the staff are qualified and the remainder are on training programmes. The group receives support from a teacher and a Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

The Village Playgroup provides good care for children aged two to five years.

Staff give high priority to ensuring children are safe both inside and outside the group. They consistently carry out the procedures that are outlined in the settings comprehensive safety policies. Staff ensure children with special needs are fully included in activities.

There are procedures in place to ensure staff have a consistent approach to their work, such as regular staff meetings, induction training and training plans. This results in well-planned sessions with a variety of activities for all children.

Staff give attention to developing children's understanding of good hygiene practice but do not provide individual towels.

Staff make good use of the available space and arrange equipment so that children have a choice of activity. The children have free access to the outside play area encouraging them to develop independence and explore.

The group maintains good records and most policies are well documented. However staff do not record the times of arrival and departure of the children.

The staff plan time to talk individually with the children. There are clear procedures and behaviour boundaries that are understood by both children and parents.

There is a good partnership with parents and carers. They take an active part in social and fundraising events. The parents know what's going on through the notice board, welcome pack and children's record files.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable, as there were no actions raised at the previous Inspection.

What is being done well?

- The group gives high priority to the staff training needs and planning activities for each session. They provide interesting, exciting activities and events for the children.
- There are comprehensive safety policies. Staff give high priority to ensuring children's safety both inside and outside the group.
- There is a strong emphasis on equal opportunities within the group. Children with special needs have specific adult support and are helped to take part in all activities.
- Children know the boundaries for behaviour and respond well to requests to tidy away toys and help one another.
- The staff have excellent relationships with parents and carers. They welcome them into the group and involve them in social events and fundraising.
- The group has comprehensive policies and procedures, which are shared fully with parents. Staff discuss children's progress with parents on a daily basis.

What needs to be improved?

- the provision of individual hand drying towels;
- the procedure for allegations against staff;
- the attendance records to show children's actual times of arrival and departure.

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
7	Ensure that children have suitable hand drying facilities.
14	Ensure that the actual arrival and departure times of the children are recorded in the daily attendance register.
14	Ensure that the Child Protection written statement includes a procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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.