



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 128461

DfES Number: 580066

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/11/2004
Inspector Name Asia Islam

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Daisy Chain
Setting Address Hermon Hill
Wanstead
London
E11 2AR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Committee of Daisy Chain Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Committee of Daisy Chain Pre-School
Address Daisy Chain
Hermon Hill
London
E11 2AR

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care in accordance with the National Standards for Under Eights Day Care and Childminding; and that the nursery education for funded three and four year old children is of an acceptable quality. Inspection of nursery education also identifies strengths and weaknesses so that providers can improve the quality of educational provision and help children to achieve the early learning goals (elgs) by the end of the Foundation Stage. This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

If the setting has been inspected previously, an action plan will have been drawn up to tackle issues identified. This inspection, therefore, must also assess what progress has been made in the implementation of this plan.

Information about the setting

Daisy Chain Pre-School has been registered since 1991 and is run by an elected parent management committee. The group operates from Wanstead Methodist church hall, close to the High Street and serves children from the local urban area. Children have access to two halls, two toilet areas and an enclosed hard surfaced outside play area. The group operate for four days a week in the large main hall of the church and on the Mondays use a separate small hall. They operate, term-time only, morning sessions from 9:15 to 11:45 and offer a lunch session for a smaller number of children from 12:45 to 13.00.

There are 28 children aged from 2 to under 5 years old on the roll. They attend various sessions. The group currently supports 6 funded three-year-olds and children with English as an additional language.

There are six staff, including the manager, working directly with children. All staff have childcare work experience, five have Level 3 qualifications in early years childcare and education and one staff member is currently working towards the NVQ Level 3 qualification. The group is a member of the Pre-school Alliance. They receive support from the Local Authority Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Daisy Chain Pre-School provides good care for children. The group offer a spacious, warm, welcoming and stimulating environment for children's comfortable play. Staff have developed good relationships with children and ensure that they feel secure. There are good quality resources to meet children's overall needs. Most of the records and policies are maintained well. The written policy for uncollected and lost children is not in place. The required written details are not included in the child protection and complaint policies.

The group have taken the necessary safety steps to reduce risks to children and ensure children play safely and confidently. Staff are aware of the importance of

children's health and hygiene. They promote this within children's daily routines. The group is aware of the positive ways of working with children with special needs and have a clear procedure in place for child protection issues.

The group offer a good range of activities for children's overall play and learning needs. Children have choice and along with adult led activities. Staff support and encourage children to have fun and learn through play. Children respond well to staff's guidance.

The group have developed good working relationships with parents. They discuss relevant care needs of the children with parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the group have notified Ofsted of relevant changes, maintained staff details and contact numbers, accident records are kept confidentially and written permission from parents for seeking emergency advice and medical treatment is obtained. These measures improve the standard of care and working relationships with parents.

What is being done well?

- The group provides a safe, clean, warm and welcoming environment for children. The play space and resources set out support children's overall care and play needs. The premise has the necessary safety measures in place for children's safe and secure play. Children play freely and confidently.
- The group has a good awareness of children's health and dietary needs. They ensure they respect children's individual needs and encourage children to wash hands before snack times. Most of the staff have valid first aid qualifications.
- The group has a good awareness of working with children with special needs and of child protection issues. They work closely with the parents to meet children's care and play needs and operate an inclusive policy.
- The group provides a balanced range of play resources to meet children's developmental, play and learning needs. There is a good range of resources to enhance children's imaginative, creative and physical play. Children approach staff confidently and staff respect their needs.
- The group have developed good relationships with parents and share children's events and progress on a daily basis with them. Staff ensure that parents are made to feel welcome and able to discuss any issues about their children's care arrangements.

What needs to be improved?

- the written documentation relating to procedures for lost or uncollected

children

- the written detail of information contained in the child protection policy, to include details relating to any allegations and the complaints policy to include Ofsted's contact details

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

N/A

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
14	Include all required details in written child protection and complaint policies
14	Develop a written policy for uncollected and lost children

INSPECTION OF THE NURSERY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR FUNDED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS.

How effective is the nursery education?

Daisy Chain Pre-School offers good quality of education overall, which enables children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals. Provision for their creative development, mathematical development, knowledge and understanding of the world and physical development is very good.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff have good relationships with children. They plan and offer good learning opportunities for children to work towards all areas of learning. There is inconsistency in practice to extend and enrich more able children's experiences. Assessments are not always used consistently to plan the next steps in children's learning. There is a good balance of child initiated and adult led play. Time and resources are not always effectively organised to meet the needs of children. Bilingual staff offer support to children with English as an additional language.

Leadership and management is generally good. The new manager and the deputy are aware of some of the weaknesses in the setting and are beginning to address them. Staff work well together as a team and meet regularly to discuss children's progress and planning.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Parents are encouraged to share what they know about their child when they first attend. Plans and the information booklet for parents include details about the foundation stages. Parents have regular informal discussions with staff about their children's progress. Parents are aware of the current themes and support their children's learning.

What is being done well?

- Staff encourage children to become familiar with colours, shapes, numbers and problem solving in every day activities. Children confidently count up to ten with peers.
- Staff provides children with many opportunities for creative play. They enjoy discovering the different properties of media such as chalk, cornflour, soil and water play.
- Children's small and large physical skills are promoted effectively through a range of stimulating resources and activities both inside and outdoors
- Children have regular opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world and technology through regular access to a computer and via celebration of different cultures.

What needs to be improved?

- consistency of observation, assessment and planning, and the evaluation of this to ensure the next steps in children's learning are identified and addressed
- opportunities for children to write for a purpose and to extend children's language
- grouping of children and organisation of resources to facilitate children's learning.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Good progress has been made since the last inspection. Staff have introduced measures to develop plans and review the activities offered in practice. Assessment check lists for recording children's progress and observations are now dated and include parent's comments. Free drawing is available with some support from adults.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are independent and able to select resources and manage their own needs very well. Children generally behave well. They are learning to take turns and share with others. Children have good relationship with adults. Children's ability to concentrate is mostly good, they are interested and motivated to learn. Large group times sometimes become disruptive and less focused and this effects children's involvement and interest.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident and enthusiastic communicators. Opportunities to extend and explore their conversations are sometime missed. They know the sounds of the first letter of their names. Most children show interest at story times but do not seek out books independently. They recognise their own names on cards. Writing for a purpose is less emphasised.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are gaining an understanding of counting, size and shape through activities such as number recognition activity through counting, cutting, sticking. Filling and emptying containers in soil and water play. Many opportunities for children to count from one to ten during snack and story time.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children explore the natural world, they plant bulbs and watch them grow outside. They use technology such as the computer with confidence and enjoyment. They find out about and discuss the different cultural events like divali, the lighting of candles and henna paintings. Children construct with large duplo bricks and play imaginatively. They visit the library and are becoming aware of their community.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children confidently use their large physical skills to climb, balance, go under and over. Good co-ordination is encouraged by the use of ball games outside. Children's skills in using construction is well fostered. They build tall towers with large duplo bricks. More able children are supported to pour their own drinks.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children participate enthusiastically in imaginative and creative play. They can participate in various creative activities through painting, musical sessions and singing time, drawing and the home area. Most children enjoy the story telling sessions and at times become actively involved in the story lines. They have opportunities to discover the properties of different media, such as chalk, cornflour, water and soil play.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. The next inspection will take place in three to four years time.

WHAT THE SETTING NEEDS TO DO NEXT: THE KEY ISSUES

- Key issues:
- evaluate the settings consistency in identifying, planning and delivering the next steps in children's learning
- increase the opportunities for children to write for a purpose and extend their language
- review the grouping of children and organisation of resources to meet the learning needs of children.

The provider must draw up an action plan within 40 working days of receipt of this report showing how the key issues detailed above will be addressed. The action plan must be made available to all parents and to the Local Authority if required. An evaluation of the action taken will form part of the next inspection of funded nursery education.

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.