



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY240501

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/12/2003
Inspector Name	Anne Legge

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Little Fishes Soft - Play Skool
Setting Address	West Cross Caen Street Braunton Devon EX33 1AQ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Elizabeth Laura Ashford
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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

Little Fishes Soft-PlaySkool opened in July 2002 and has offered full day-care since September 2002. It is privately owned and staffed by the proprietor, three full-time and three part-time staff, together with two work experience students. All permanent staff have child care qualifications or are working towards them. The nursery is registered to care for 21 children from birth to 8 years and those attending come from the town of Braunton and surrounding rural areas. The nursery is open from 07:30 to 17:30 on weekdays, for 50 weeks a year. Funded three- and four-year olds are catered for in morning sessions, when children are cared for in three age-groups. Afternoon sessions are more informal.

### How good is the Day Care?

Little Fishes Soft PlaySkool provides good quality care for children. Staff are well qualified and committed to improving their skills and qualifications. Staffing ratios are good and space and resources are used effectively to meet children's needs. The nursery offers a stimulating environment for children and is well equipped. All the required policies and procedures are in place and are shared with parents, although some documents need to be updated.

Safety standards are high and all aspects of health and hygiene are satisfactory. Nutritious snacks are provided for children and staff are keen to meet all individual needs. They have a good understanding of equal opportunities and of most child protection issues.

Children enjoy a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities, they are grouped appropriately and staff support their play and learning effectively. Children are settled and happy at the nursery, they relate well to staff and to each other and their behaviour is managed sensitively.

Staff provide parents with detailed information about the nursery and they invite parents to share information and to see children's records regularly.

### What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

### What is being done well?

- The nursery offers an attractive and well planned environment. Space and resources are very well organised to provide a variety of play opportunities for children.
- Staff plan an exciting and challenging range of activities for children and interact effectively with them to promote their development in all areas. Physical activities are used particularly well to develop children's self-confidence.
- There is a good range of toys, resources, climbing and soft play equipment, which meets the needs of children of all ages.
- Safety is given a high priority, risk assessments are thorough and staff teach children to be aware of hazards and to reduce risks.
- Staff are committed to equal opportunities and to meeting children's individual needs.
- Staff develop good relationships with parents and keep them well informed about the nursery and about their child's progress. An effective key worker system helps parents to feel involved in their child's day-to-day care.

### What needs to be improved?

- the policy for the administration of medicines, to be updated in line with current practice
- the child protection policy, to include details of procedures to be followed within the nursery if an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff
- records of medicines administered, to include a parent signature after administration.

### 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?

<b>The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection</b>	
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Std	Recommendation
14	Ensure that all policies and documents are sufficiently detailed and shared appropriately with parents.

## **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.*