



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY270968

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 05/05/2004
Inspector Name Jacqueline Oldman

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name St.Teresa's Pre-School
Setting Address Parish Centre
109 Ashingdon Road
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1RF

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of St.Teresa's Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St.Teresa's Pre-School
Address 109 Ashingdon Road
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1RF

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

St Theresa's Pre-school opened in 1979. It operates from one room in St Theresa's Parish Centre adjacent to St Theresa's Catholic School in Rochford. The pre-school serves the local area.

There are currently 36 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 16 funded 3 year olds and 11 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There no children currently attending who have special needs or who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:10 until 12:00 and from 12:30 to 15:00.

Five part time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. One member of staff is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) The setting caters mainly for children entering the Catholic School.

How good is the Day Care?

St Teresa's Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children.

Staff welcome children and parents to a warm, safe and secure environment. The group sizes are organised to ensure the safety, welfare and development of the children are well met. Staff have identified and attended training courses to ensure that they have the relevant knowledge and skills, constantly updating their practice. The setting maintains most records, policies and procedures, however some require updating.

Staff give priority to ensuring that children are safe, both inside and outside. They actively promote good hygiene practices and act in the children's best interests in the case of illness or an emergency. All staff are first aid trained. Fresh drinking water is freely available to children. A range of snacks are provided. Planned activities help children learn about people's differences and similarities. Children with special needs are valued and their individual needs are met. Staff are aware of their responsibilities should they have concerns regarding a child's well-being, although procedures require review.

Staff organise an interesting and stimulating programme of activities and encourage the children to make their own choices about play and learning. Staff support children's learning well while still providing sufficient challenges. Children have good opportunities to be active in the safe, enclosed outside play area and are taken on outings. Staff respect children's individuality, listening to their requests and responding positively. Children are given clear guidelines for good behaviour and benefit from staff's consistent approach.

Staff work in partnership with parents, gaining as much information as possible about their child to ensure that their individual needs are met. Parents are respected as their child's first educator and information regarding their care, play and learning is shared.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Numbers attending are maintained at a maximum of 10 children per session as staff recognise that young children often need extra support.
- Children are involved in a broad range of topic based and play activities to support their all round development and social skills. At snack time children's independence is encouraged while it is also used as an effective learning tool, for example supporting the understanding of the language of mathematics.
- The children's safety is paramount, with staff applying appropriate safety measures to avoid dangerous situations. Risk assessments are conducted daily and half termly. The findings are used to review and refine their policies and procedures.
- Children benefit from a trusting and mutually supportive partnership between their parents and the pre-school staff. Staff welcome parents into the setting at any time and there is a two-way flow of information through daily record sheets, newsletters, children's developmental files and a comprehensive parent's information booklet.

What needs to be improved?

- the staff induction policy and procedures, to be developed
- the child protection policy, to include contact names and telephone numbers
- the medical policy, to include sickness exclusion information.

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
2	Develop a policy that sets out how staff induction training will be met in their first week of employment.
14	Review the medical and child protection policies and procedures to make sure they meet the requirements of the National Standards and Guidance to the National Standards. (This refers to Standards 7 & 13)

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.