



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 110007

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/12/2003
Inspector Name Catherine Hill

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Alton College Childcare Centre
Setting Address Old Odiham Road
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 2LX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name ALTON COLLEGE CHILD CARE CENTRE

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name ALTON COLLEGE CHILD CARE CENTRE
Address Old Odiham Road
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 2LX

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

Alton College Childcare Centre is situated in the grounds of Alton College on the outskirts of the town. The childcare centre has its own purpose built building and car park. There are two rooms at the centre with the small room being used for the under two's. There is an enclosed outdoor play area. Children who attend have parents who are teachers or students at the college, and attend on a part time basis. The centre does not accept children from the community.

The centre currently has 37 children on roll and accepts up to 20 children per session. It is not part of the Early Years Education grant funding scheme. Children attend for a variety of sessions and bring their own lunches. The centre currently supports one child with special needs and four children who speak English as an additional language.

The centre is open from 08:30 to 17:30 Monday to Friday during term times only. It is open at other times by prior arrangement to suit the college timetable.

Eight members of staff work with the children on a part time basis. Half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 3 with remaining staff members working towards a recognised early years qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Alton College Childcare Centre provides satisfactory care for children.

Staff organise a welcoming, friendly and stimulating environment for children. Sufficient, suitable age appropriate resources are provided to allow for progression in all skill areas. Staff have experience and appropriate qualifications and all relevant documentation is in place although some lacks necessary detail.

The centre has a high regard for safety with access to the provision monitored and arrival and departure policies in place to ensure the welfare of the children. Children are taught good hygiene practice and suitable procedures are in place to deal with any special needs or child protection issues.

Staff plan a range of activities for children to meet their differing developmental needs. Assessment records are maintained to ensure children have opportunities for progression. Children are well occupied and sensitively supported by staff who are kind and caring. Staff take a continual interest in the children and have very good

relationships with them and act as positive role models with regard to behaviour. Children are happy and relaxed and play well with each other.

Partnership with parents is positive. Parents are kept well informed about their children and the centre via information displayed and daily verbal exchanges. Parents are happy with the centre and care provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This section is not applicable as the last inspection was transitional.

What is being done well?

- Care, learning and play is good. Staff plan and provide a range of activities to meet the needs of the varying age groups. They take a continual interest in children and continually interact with them. Children are happy and relaxed and actively engage in play.
- Equal opportunities is good. Staff treat all children with equal concern. They have very good relationships with children, treat them as individuals and sensitively respond to their needs. Children are well occupied and readily approach staff for support and conversation.
- Behaviour management is very good. Staff act as positive role models with regard to behaviour. They provide a calm, stimulating environment in which children play well together and are generally well behaved.
- Partnership with parents is very good. Detailed information is shared with parents whose views are sought on practice and procedures. Parents are happy with the centre and positive in their praise of the setting.

What needs to be improved?

- detail in documentation to include: surnames in registration records and visitors attending; procedures to be followed if a child becomes unwell whilst attending the centre; parental acknowledgement of any medication administered; legislation the equal opportunities policy has regard to and procedures to be included in the child protection policy to be followed in the event of an allegation made against a staff member.

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
14	ensure all necessary detail is included in documentation.

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.