



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 131796

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 22/09/2004
Inspector Name Catherine Greenwood

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Fairfield Playbox
Setting Address Methodist Church Hall
Fairfield South
Kingston Upon Thames
Surrey
KT1 2UJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Mrs Julie Carroll & Ms Sheila Moore
Address 65 Villiers Avenue
Surbiton
Surrey
KT5 8BE

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

Fairfield Playbox has been open for approximately 30 years. It comprises of a playgroup which offers sessional day care for children aged two years to under five years. The provision is open Tuesday to Friday between 09:30am and 12:00pm, term time only. There are currently 42 children on roll. At present there is one child attending who has special needs, and seven children who have English as an additional language.

The provision is situated in the heart of Kingston town centre in the Methodist Church hall in Fairfield South. It is opposite the open spaces of Fairfield Park.

The premises consists of one large playroom, a kitchen, toilets, and a vestry which is used for small group work with the children. There is no outside play area, but the provision has access to a second large hall on the first floor of the premises, which they use for physical activities and games. The main emphasis for the provision is on free play, where children are able to choose what activities they wish to participate in.

Ten staff including the two joint managers, work in the playgroup on a rota system. Six staff hold either the Diploma in Nursery Nursing (NNEB), a certificate of education, or the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Early Years Care and Education level 2 or 3. One of the staff has a Diploma in Pre-school Practice. There are five volunteers who work in the provision on a regular basis.

How good is the Day Care?

Fairfield Playbox provides a good standard of care for children. All aspects of the provision are extremely well organised which enables the staff to work closely with the children and offer good support and care. Good organisation of space and resources allows children to move around freely and make independent choices within their play. Staff are clear about their responsibilities and work well as a team, which enables children to be happy and relaxed in the setting. High priority is given to ensuring children's safety. The current arrangement for nappy changing is not adequate.

Staff plan a very good range of activities and present the resources in an attractive way so that children enjoy using them. Staff and volunteers get down to the children's level and actively join in their play, for example in the home corner, and

book area. The good interaction and support from staff, leads to children showing great enjoyment and enthusiasm towards all activities and events. They show particular enjoyment when a volunteer plays a guitar to accompany their singing. Large equipment such as a climbing frame and slide and wheeled toys are used effectively so that children can develop their physical skills. Children with special needs have additional experienced support staff to help them take part in everyday activities. Children's differing needs are taken into account, although those linked to their language are not well known by staff or taken into account when planning activities and communicating with children individually.

There is a good partnership with parents and carers. The staff work closely with all members of a child's family to help children settle and feel secure. Parents are listened to, and kept well informed about the provision and their children's individual progress. Staff and parents share information about children's individual needs. Most policies and procedures are in place.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider agreed to forward a copy of the last environmental health checks to Ofsted, conduct a risk assessment of the premises and ensure this is reviewed if there is significant change, devise a policy about the exclusion of children who are ill or infectious that includes contacting parents or another designated person if the a child becomes ill whilst in day care, ensure there is at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate on the premises at any one time, seek written parental consent for children to receive emergency medical treatment, devise a special needs statement that is consistent with current legislation, ensure all policies and procedures are available to parents, update the complaints procedure with Ofsted's details, and ensure there is a child protection procedure that includes procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff. Details of environmental health checks are made available to Ofsted, a risk assessment has been completed which includes the use of the upstairs hall, a sick child policy has been devised which includes all relevant details, two of the staff have obtained a certificate in first aid, details have been amended to include parental consent for children to receive emergency medical treatment, a special needs statement has been devised, the newsletters to parents identify that all policies and procedures are available to them, and a child protection procedure has been devised, but does not include the action to be taken in the event of an allegation against a member of staff.

What is being done well?

- Staff interaction with children is of a high quality. Staff develop very good relationships with the children and are responsive to their individual needs. Children show enthusiasm and enjoyment for all activities. Staff and volunteers are based at activities and support the children well with using the resources successfully. There is a very good range of well organised and accessible play equipment, and sufficient resources which enable children to play together in small groups.

- There is excellent individual support and inclusion for children who have special needs. Staff have a very good knowledge of children's developmental progress and how to support them within the provision. In conjunction with parents and other agencies they clearly identify the areas of play that children love, and use them as a springboard for future learning.
- Staff manage the children's behaviour in a confident and appropriate way, which includes giving children clear explanations and expectations. Children are co-operative and very well behaved.
- The provision works very well with parents to help settle new children. This includes parents and extended family staying at the playgroup and joining in the activities and events for as long as necessary. Communication with parents is relaxed, informal and friendly. Parents are given good written information about future activities, staffing arrangements and policies and procedures.

What needs to be improved?

- the child protection policy to include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation made against a member of staff.
- the provision for children who have English as an additional language
- the nappy changing arrangement

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	review and improve the nappy changing arrangement
9	improve staff knowledge of children's linguistic differences, and ensure this information is taken into account when planning activities and communicating with children

14	update the child protection procedure to include details of procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against staff or volunteer
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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.