



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 133108

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	16/06/2003
Inspector Name	Sue Vernon

### SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	Widcombe Acorns
Setting Address	St Marks Community Centre Bath BA2 4ET

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Miss Jackie Ridout
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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.

<b>Information about the setting</b>
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Widcombe Acorns is an established committee run group based in St Mark's community Church Hall, serving the area of Widcombe in the city of Bath. They are permanently set up in separate rooms within the hall, with an integral kitchen and toilet area. They also have use of the main hall for activities during the sessions. They use part of the old church yard for outdoor play which is fenced off during use. The pre school group is registered for 24 places for children under 5 each session , with a maximum of 4 under 3's. They provide places for funded three and four year olds. The group opens term time, Monday, Wednesday Thursday, Friday mornings 9.30-12.00 and Tuesday afternoons 13.00-15.30. In addition they provide a lunch session on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12 to 13.15. There are five staff in the team which is supported by a parent helper each session. The play leader who has returned after a two year break and supporting staff have early years qualifications and two others are studying for qualifications.
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<b>How good is the Day Care?</b>
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Widcome Acorns provides good quality care for children The group makes very good use of the church rooms where the pre school is held to create a bright, welcoming and child friendly environment. They plan well how to allocate staff and resources throughout the sessions to maximise children's play and learning experience. The key worker system works well to ensure children's individual needs are met. There is a wide range of bright and modern age- appropriate resources which children enjoy using. Resources are displayed well for children to self-select. Staff relate well in children in both large and small group activities and in one to one contact. Children respond well to staff's praise and encouragement and they are happily involved in their play. Activities are well planned to provide an interesting and stimulating experience. Monitoring safety is given a high priority and the majority of the necessary paperwork is in place and used. Staff have first aid training but rarely give medication. Partnership with parents is given a high priority and the group works well to ensure parents are involved in helping their children settle in the group and continue to be fully informed about their child's development.
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<b>What has improved since the last inspection?</b>
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No actions were set at the previous inspection.
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**What is being done well?**

The group builds warm and effective relationships with parents to ensure the needs of their child are met and they are involved in their child's experience.(Standard 12) Children are happily involved in well planned activities with staff working closely with the children, praising and encouraging them.(Standard 3) The environment is bright and welcoming to children and parents alike and shows children's work in an attractive and imaginative way.(Standard 4)

**What needs to be improved?**

record keeping regarding medication and treatment in an emergency; (Standard 7) detail in the child protection policy regarding notifying OFSTED; (Standard 13)

**Outcome of the inspection**

Good

**WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?****The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
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**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
7	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.
7	Keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children.
13	Ensure the child protection policy includes the procedure to be followed in the event of an accusation against staff.

## **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.*