



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 143076

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 26/06/2003  
Inspector Name Claire Sheldrake

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Little Acorns Pre-School  
Setting Address The Playing Fields Pavilion  
Greenway  
North Curry  
Somerset  
TA3 6NQ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Claire Kevan

## 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 Acorns Preschool is committee run and uses premises situated on the playing fields in the village of North Curry. There are close links between the pre school and the local primary school to assist the children experience a smooth transition from preschool to school.

The group is registered to take 24 children under the age of five years and is open each morning in term time from 09:15 to 13:10. Parents are asked to provide their child with a packed lunch.

The preschool is run by a team of four members of staff, managed by Mrs Claire Kevan who holds an NVQ level 3 in Childcare and Education.

The group accepts funded three and four year olds and children with special needs. The building is a new pavilion and has a large main play space with a toilet area and kitchen to one side. The back garden and playing fields are used to provide outdoor play.

### How good is the Day Care?

Little Acorns Pre School provides good quality care for children aged under 5 years.

Little Acorns Pre School offers a friendly and inviting environment for parents and children. The group is run by an experienced team of staff who all hold a variety of qualifications in childcare.

The Pre school has one large main playroom which is set up for each session. Staff combine indoor play with trips into the adjacent playing field and the rear garden.

The staff have a good awareness of health and safety issues and all hold a current first aid qualification.

During the session, children are asked to bring in a packed lunch. This is a good social opportunity and staff dedicate their time encouraging the children to be independent.

Staff are well trained in child protection, equal opportunities, and in the care of special needs children. They ensure all children feel included and valued within the group. However resources to promote ethnicity, culture and disability are limited.

Activities are carefully planned, and resourced, allowing the children the opportunity to learn, explore, investigate and experience all areas of their development. Staff dedicate their time interacting with the children, talking, listening and supporting each child. A positive and consistent approach is shown when dealing with all aspects of behaviour management.

Good relationships are formed between parents and staff. A regular newsletter provides parents with important information and events. Staff make themselves available at the end of each session for any parent wishing to discuss their child's progress. All relevant documentation is kept confidential and updated although policies for child protection and complaints procedures need to be completed.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

The action set at the last inspection was to ensure that all staff CRB checks were completed. This action has been addressed and all checks have been returned, OFSTED informed and have now been placed in the staff file which is shared with parents.

#### **What is being done well?**

- All the staff hold childcare qualifications and specialist training and work together well as a team.(Standard 1)
- Staff supervise the children closely, allowing them to make choices of activities through out the session.(Standard 2)
- Staff plan resources well, to ensure children are able to explore and investigate and relate well to others. They stimulate, encourage and support each child to participate in all aspects of the preschool.(Standard 3)
- Through recording, observation and the key worker system all children are well known and included. (Standard 9 and 10)
- Parents are kept involved and well informed of all aspects of the Pre school. (Standard 12)

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- resources which reflect positive images of ethnicity, culture and disability.(standard 9)
- documentation, to ensure policies are kept up to date and accurate (standard 14)

#### **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
9	improve resources to promote equality, culture and disability.
10	update the policy for special needs to ensure all relevant agencies are consulted.
13	include details informing OFSTED in the child protection statement.

## **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.*