



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 103078

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/02/2005
Inspector Name Jonathon Christopher White

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Threemilestone Pre-School
Setting Address The Elliott Hut, Threemilestone School
Polstain Road, Threemilestone
Truro
Cornwall
TR3 6DH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of u/a

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name u/a
Address u/a
,
u/a

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

Threemilestone Pre-School opened in 1976. It operates from two rooms in a purpose built building in the grounds of Threemilestone Primary School. This is a committee run pre-school.

A maximum of twenty children may attend at any one time. The pre-school is open each weekday from 09:00 until 11:30, and 12:30 until 15:00 during school term times. All children have access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently forty two children aged two to five years on roll. Of these thirty nine children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area. The pre-school currently supports a number of children with special educational needs and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school employs nine staff. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. One member of staff is currently working towards a qualification. The pre-school receives support from an advisory teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). The Pre-School is also a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PLA).

How good is the Day Care?

Threemilestone Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. Staff are well qualified and are committed to ongoing training and development. Staff ratios are maintained, however the deployment of staff is not always effective in supporting children's needs. The Pre-School provides a warm welcoming environment for children and parents. There are good visual displays of children's work and posters throughout the room. Staff are aware of procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child. However the policy is not sufficiently detailed about allegations against a member of staff or volunteers.

Risk assessments are carried out on the rooms and staff are safety conscious. Policies and procedures and committee information are in place but are not made available to parents. There is a strong emphasis on equal opportunities and children with special needs are well supported and included in all activities. Children learn about personal hygiene through daily routines. Documentation is maintained on accidents and medication, however parental permission for emergency treatment or

advice is not available.

Staff plan an interesting varied programme of activities that provide children with imagination and challenge. Children are able to select and choose toys and experiences of their choice. There is a good selection of resources and equipment available meeting the needs of the children. Staff have a consistent and sensitive approach to managing children's behaviour. Children are happy to follow instruction and help tidy up when asked.

The pre-school has made good relationships with parents. Parents have access to relevant information about their children's progress and development. However the complaints procedure does not include contact details of the regulator. The registered person and committee members have not completed all relevant documentation for Ofsted. Staff records and qualifications are not in evidence on the premises.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider was asked to formulate a procedure to follow in the event of a child not being collected or becoming lost and send to Bristol Regional Centre; procedure now included in the policies and procedures; provide evidence that kitchen conforms to environmental health, and food safety regulations; this action was for a previous building no longer used by the pre-school; conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying action to be taken to minimise identified risks; appropriate risk assessments now in place; seek permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment; this action has not been completed and a new recommendation has been agreed; include the name in addition to telephone, of emergency contact; this information has now been included in children's record sheets; record information about children's dietary requirements and share with staff; information now recorded in child's record sheet plus daily register; devise and implement a system to make fresh drinking water available to children at all times; fresh drinking water is now available to children at all times; remove reference to "Christian" name from children's records and ensure that the records contain sufficient cultural information to ensure appropriate care is provided; name now removed from documents and appropriate information recorded; include the name and address and telephone number of the regulator in the complaints procedure; this action has not been completed and a recommendation has been set; devise and implement a system to enable parents to access the pre-school's policies and procedures; this action has not been completed and a new recommendation has been set; make available on the premises records, including name and committee members; this action has not been completed and a new recommendation has been set.

What is being done well?

- Children take part in a wide range of planned activities. They can choose their resources and make decisions about what they would like to play with.
- The staff group have a good understanding of and actively promote equal

opportunities. There is a good selection and range of resources that promote anti-discriminatory practice.

- Staff develop a consistent sensitive approach to managing children's behaviour. They promote positive behaviour to encourage good self esteem.

What needs to be improved?

- the completion of DC2 forms for all committee members
- the details of the regulator in the complaints procedures
- the staff records availability on the premises
- the effective staff deployment throughout the session
- the parental permission for the seeking of medical advice or treatment
- the policies and procedures made available to parents
- the child protection policy to include information to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against staff or volunteers.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
1	Ensure the registered person and all committee members complete the necessary DC2 forms and return to Ofsted	31/03/2005

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure staff qualifications and details are kept on the premises.
2	Ensure staff are deployed effectively so children receive the maximum staff support.
7	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment
12	Make available to parents contact details of the regulator in the complaints procedure.
12	Make available to parents all policies and procedures. Provide parents with details of all relevant committee members.
13	Ensure the child protection policy includes the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteers.

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.