



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 144310

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/10/2004
Inspector Name Brenda Joan Flewitt

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name St Catherine's Kindergarten
Setting Address Cutlers Place
Colehill
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 2HN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name St Catherine's Kindergarten 1022781

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St Catherine's Kindergarten
Address Cutlers Place
Colehill
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 2HN

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

St Catherine's Kindergarten is a committee run group offering pre-school sessions for children aged two years and nine months to five years. The premises consist of a self contained classroom unit in the grounds of St Catherine's RC Primary School, which includes toilets and kitchen facilities. Children attend from the surrounding areas.

The kindergarten has a secure enclosed play area adjacent to the premises and also has use of the school playground.

There are currently 21 children on roll which includes funded three and four year olds. The kindergarten supports children with special needs.

The group opens five days a week during school term time. Sessions run from 09:00 to 12:00.

There is a team of five regular staff who work with the children. The Kindergarten Leader is a qualified teacher with a B.Ed degree. Three members of staff are studying towards a level two or three child care qualification. There are close links with the school, to which most children go on to attend. The group receives support from the Early Years Consultants, and the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

St Catherine's Kindergarten provides good quality overall care for children aged two to under five years.

The supportive committee, and staff work well as a team, they all have clear roles and responsibilities, which contributes to the smooth running of the sessions. Staff create a warm, welcoming environment for both children and parents. They make effective use of the spacious, well maintained premises and the good range of well organised equipment, to offer a good variety of play opportunities.

Staff plan a broad range of activities that promote learning in all areas of development. They use every day experiences to gain the children's interest, such as the refurbishment of their outside play area. Children are happy, settled and confident. They make good relationships with staff and each other. Staff get to know children well as individuals through positive interaction, and good communication with parents. This enables children who have special needs to be well supported.

Children behave well, they know the routine, and are co-operative. Staff engage in purposeful conversation to develop their thinking. There are good systems in place to aid the transition into main school.

Staff are active in carrying out procedures outlined in policies, to ensure the health and safety of the children. However some policies lack the required detail, and the registration system does not record the hours that the children attend. There are good first aid arrangements in place, all staff have attended relevant training. The children learn about health and hygiene through discussion and practice. Staff supply nutritious mid-morning snacks.

Partnership with parents is good. Staff provide parents with comprehensive information about the setting in a variety of ways. There is a friendly exchange of information on a daily basis, supported by the two-way 'Hand-in-Hand books. Parents provide support through their individual roles on the management committee.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider agreed to ensure adequate supervision during outside play; to keep written records of medicines administered; to produce an action plan detailing how staff qualifications are to be met; to provide a written complaints procedure; and to ensure that drinking water is available to children at all times.

When children play in the fully enclosed outdoor area they are appropriately supervised by at least two members of staff.

Staff are clear about the medication policy which includes keeping a record of medicines given to children and obtaining a parental signature to acknowledge the entry.

There is a suitable complaints procedure that includes Ofsted details, and is made accessible to parents.

Three members of staff are increasing their qualifications by studying NVQ courses to level two and three.

Children's access to drinking water has improved. Parents provide individual plastic bottles of water which are kept on a tray on the counter where children can access them throughout the morning.

What is being done well?

- The kindergarten is well supported by the parent committee who have specific roles and responsibilities. They show a commitment to improving the provision through the detailed development plan, fundraising, and the positive liaison with the staff and school.
- Good use is made of the spacious premises to provide a welcoming

environment as well as a broad range of activities and experiences. The resources are well organised to allow children to make choices for themselves. Staff make activities meaningful and relate to everyday life.

- Children make good relationships with staff and each other. They learn to respect each other's differences and to be kind. Staff present as good role models. They listen to the children and offer much praise and encouragement, which reflects in the children's behaviour.
- Partnership with parents is good. Parents are supplied with a comprehensive prospectus, regular newsletters, and useful information displayed in the kindergarten. There are effective methods for sharing information on a daily basis which contributes towards meeting individual needs.

What needs to be improved?

- the system to ensure there is a record of the hours children attend
- the sickness policy to include procedures to be followed in the event of a child becoming ill when attending day care
- the child protection policy to include names and contact numbers of local police and social services department.

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
2	Improve the registration system to ensure that if a child's attendance is different to the session times, a record is kept.
7	Increase the information in the sickness policy, to include procedures to be followed in the event of a child becoming ill whilst in day care.
13	Review the child protection statement to ensure it includes contact information in accordance with the Area Child Protection Committee

	procedures.
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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.