



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 103731

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/01/2004
Inspector Name	Linda Patricia Coccia

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Strawberry Fields Day Nursery
Setting Address	37 Stuart Road Gillingham Kent ME7 4AD

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Strawberry Fields
------	-------------------

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Strawberry Fields
Address	37 Stuart Road Gillingham Kent ME7 4AD

## 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

Strawberry Fields Day Nursery opened in 1990. It operates from three rooms in a house in Gillingham, Kent. The nursery serves the local area.

There are currently 93 children from 1 to 5 years on roll. This includes 28 funded 3-year-olds and 5 funded 4-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports 2 children with special needs and 10 children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 07.30 to 18.00.

There are 18 staff working with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. There are 2 staff currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher from the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

Strawberry Fields Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. Staff are qualified and experienced and children are happy and well cared for.

The nursery is well organised. Good procedures are in place for the recruitment of staff, the majority of whom are qualified. On going training is offered, especially in child protection, first aid and behaviour management, which are all, considered mandatory by the nursery. There is a good induction programme for staff. The premises are clean and well maintained. Each room can be used for a variety of activities, but some rooms could be used more flexibly.

The children are safe and well cared for. The premises are secure. Regular risk assessments are carried out on the building and daily safety checklists are used for all rooms. Menus are displayed in the entrance and children enjoy a variety of meals and snacks. The nursery has specialist co-ordinators for child protection, special educational needs and equal opportunities, who ensure that children's individual needs are met. However, privacy in the children's toilet areas needs to be considered.

A good range of toys and activities are provided each day. Many activities are structured, but throughout the day children have choices. Toys are stored at child

level. The nursery provides a range of toys, books and activities, which provide positive images of culture, race and religion. Children and staff are happy and have good interaction. Staff praise and encourage good behaviour. Individual behaviour management strategies are used for individual children if needed.

The nursery works in partnership with its parents and actively seeks their views. The nursery has a parent committee. Parents are able to access their child's development records at any time.

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

Not applicable.

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

- The staff have very good relationships with children. They enjoy their company and know them well. They spend a lot of time talking and playing with them and helping them to learn. The children are very happy and settled.
- The nursery has a wide range of good quality toys, books and equipment. They use these to plan interesting activities to promote children's development. Different cultural festivals are celebrated. Children are able to respect each others' differences.
- There is a good induction programme in place for staff. They systematically work through all the nursery policies and procedures until they are competent. The children benefit from a smoothly run nursery and consistency of care.
- The group offers a warm and welcoming environment. Parents and children are greeted at the entrance. Children feel safe and secure.
- The group actively seeks parents' views. It regularly issues questionnaires about its day to day running. The parent committee issues a regular information newsletter. Evenings for parents ensure they are able to discuss their child. Children receive continuity of care.

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

- children's privacy in toilet areas.

#### **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
4	Ensure children's privacy in toilet areas.

## **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.*