



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 156384

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	02/11/2004
Inspector Name	Bridget Richardson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Little Oaks
Setting Address	29-41 Sorrel Drive Eastbourne East Sussex BN23 8BH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Little Oaks
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Little Oaks
Address	29-41 Sorrel Drive Eastbourne East Sussex BN23 8BH

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 Oaks opened in 2001 and operates from rooms in a purpose built unit. It is situated in the Sorrell Drive Children's Resource Centre in Eastbourne. A maximum of 9 children may attend the setting at any one time. The setting is open each Tuesday from 10:00 to 12:30 term times only.

There are currently 4 children aged 0 to under 5 years on roll. No children are in receipt of funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area and the setting offers respite care to parents and carers. The setting support children with special educational needs and also children who speak English as an additional language.

The setting employs 10 staff. Eight of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. One staff member is working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

The standard and quality of care at Little Oaks is good. The setting is well organised and staff work well together as a team. They provide a warm, child friendly environment where children are happy and settled. There is an effective operational plan in place which guides the staff team in their daily practice. Staff demonstrate an understanding of health and hygiene issues, however hand washing facilities require improvement to minimise the risk of cross infection. Generally good safety measures are in place, however security of the premises requires development to ensure unvetted persons cannot gain entry.

Staff have a good knowledge of each child's needs and interests. They form warm, caring relationships with the children who are happy and confident to try new experiences. Staff plan and provide an interesting range of worthwhile topics and activities, helping children to make progress in all areas of development. The setting organises the space and resources well and children enjoy choosing from the activities provided.

There is an effective partnership with parents and good links are forged between the setting and home. They are provided with useful information about the group. The regular exchange of information on children's progress ensures that their individual needs are well met. While all the relevant paperwork is in place two minor

improvements are required. To maintain an accurate attendance register and for parents to sign entries in the accident book.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting agreed to ensure that the a complaints and sick child policy was available to parents and that parents sign any recordings of medicines administered. To make parents aware of the fact that they can access information kept on their child.

A complaints policy is given to parents in an information pack giving comprehensive details of what they can do with any concerns. A clear sick child policy is in place which is shared with parents to minimise the risk of cross infection to children attending. Parents have been made aware of, and share information maintained on their child to ensure individual needs are met.

What is being done well?

- Staff offer a caring, warm environment for children, they interact positively and encourage each child to explore their environment and extend their development through one to one supervision and individual play plans.
- A warm, welcoming environment is provided for parents and children through offering a relaxed and informal atmosphere where children and their carers feel welcomed and secure.
- Staff act as positive role models, they are consistent when dealing with behaviour and offer all children praise and encouragement.
- A wide range of toys and equipment are available that encourages development. All toys and play equipment are easily accessible and rotated to ensure children are given a broad range of experiences and opportunities.

What needs to be improved?

- the attendance register and accident book
- the security of the premises
- the hand washing facilities.

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.)

Since 1 April 2004 Ofsted have not received any complaints about this provider.

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
6	Ensure an effective system is in place to make certain unvetted persons cannot enter the premises.
7	Ensure suitable arrangements are in place for hand washing to minimise the risk of cross infection.
14	Ensure an accurate attendance register is maintained and that parents sign any accident recorded forms as required.

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.