



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 319341

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	06/12/2004
Inspector Name	Kathleen Snowdon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Westerhope Methodist Church Playgroup
Setting Address	Stamfordham Road Westerhope Newcastle Upon Tyne NE5 5HA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Westerhope Methodist Church Playgroup
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Westerhope Methodist Church Playgroup
Address	21 West Meadows Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear NE5 1LS

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

Westerhope Methodist Church Playgroup was registered in 1996. It is based in a church hall in the west of Newcastle, and is registered to look after 26 children aged from two years to under five years. Mainly serving families within the local community, it is open Monday to Wednesday from 09.15 - 11.30 in term-time only.

There is a total of six staff, all of whom are suitably qualified for their role; of these, four work with the children at any one time. There are 16 children on roll at present. None of them have special needs and none speak English as a second language. The playgroup is not in receipt of funding for three and four-year-olds.

How good is the Day Care?

Westerhope Methodist Church Playgroup provides a good standard of care to children. The experienced and suitably qualified staff work well as a team, and assess the service they provide to enable them to make appropriate plans for the future. They work very effectively in partnership with parents, whose views and opinions are welcomed and valued, and who feel happy with the service they receive. Parents feel that staff are caring and approachable, and like the central location of the playgroup, which is close to all local facilities, such as schools and shops.

Staff plan a range of interesting activities and ensure that the children have easy access to stimulating equipment that helps the children to make progress in all areas of their development. They form excellent relationships with them and show an interest in what the children say, do, and think, engaging them in conversations that appeal to the children's interests. The staff use sensitive and appropriate methods to manage the children's behaviour, and make frequent observations to help them to track the children's progress.

The staff take a conscientious approach to health and safety issues. They encourage the children to develop good hygiene practices, such as hand washing, to promote the children's good health, and involve them in safe practices, such as fire drills, to ensure that staff and children know what to do in the event of an emergency. All essential records are in place and are well organised and readily available, contributing to the safe and efficient running of the group on a day-to-day basis.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection, the staff have placed a safety gate at the entrance to the kitchen and now keep the doors to the walk-in storage cupboard locked, to prevent the children gaining unsupervised access to potentially hazardous areas. In addition to this, they turn down the temperature of the radiators and arrange furniture around them where possible, to ensure that the children are not at risk from unguarded appliances.

What is being done well?

- The way in which the staff form excellent relationships with the children, in whom they are interested, and whose behaviour they manage using sensitive and appropriate methods.
- The effective partnership with parents, which helps to ensure that the needs of the children are fully met.
- The interesting range of activities and the easily accessible equipment which helps the children to make progress in all areas of their development.
- The conscientious approach to health and safety matters, and the well organised records that help to contribute to the children's safety and wellbeing during the time they spend in the group.

What needs to be improved?

- self-assessment, to continue to make appropriate plans for the future.

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

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
1	Continue to assess the quality of existing provision to make effective plans for the future.

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.