



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 311887

INSPECTION DETAILS

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| Inspection Date | 09/05/2003 |
| Inspector Name | Shirley Peart |

SETTING DETAILS

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| Setting Name | Cromer Pre-School |
| Setting Address | United Reform Church GATESHEAD TYNE AND WEAR NE9 6UL |

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

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| Name | Mrs Amanda Cannon |
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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.

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| Information about the setting |
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| <p>Cromer Avenue Pre-school was registered as sessional day care for a number of years, then re-registered in December 2000 as full day care. It operates from three rooms within Cromer Avenue United Reformed Church, which is on a residential estate in Low Fell, Gateshead. The pre-school serves the local surrounding areas in Low Fell. The pre-school is registered for 45 children aged from three to five years. There are currently 74 children on roll. The majority of children are funded three and four year olds and attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children with special needs. The group is open school term-time only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.30am until 3.00pm and on Tuesday and Thursday from 8.30am until 11.45am. Twelve staff work with the children; eleven of the staff have relevant qualifications and one staff member is working towards an early years qualification. The group has recently been awarded the Pre-School Learning Alliance Accreditation Award.</p> |
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| How good is the Day Care? |
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| <p>The pre-school provides a good standard of care. Staff work well together as a team and the leader is committed and enthusiastic regarding the overall provision. A comprehensive set of policies and procedures, which are reviewed regularly, underpin the day to day running of the group. A good induction procedure is in place and staff access regular, ongoing training which is relevant to their practice. The group has recently been awarded the Pre-School Learning Alliance Accreditation Award; staff have worked hard to achieve this. There are good recording systems in place which enable staff to monitor the cleanliness and safety of the premises. Staff are also vigilant in monitoring children as they move from room to room and when accessing the bathrooms. As the majority of the children are funded the pre-school follows the curriculum guidance for the foundation stage. Therefore, effective planning is in place which enhances children's all round development. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of the needs of young children, they are attentive and involved in children's play. Children are happy, confident and engrossed in the activities on offer. Staff offer a warm and welcoming environment for children and their parents. They are given a useful prospectus and an informative termly newsletter. Two way information about children's progress and development is regularly passed on verbally and at regular planned parents evenings. Parents speak highly of the pre-school and the staff team.</p> |
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What has improved since the last inspection?

There was one action from the last inspection which was to ensure that the gate lock was repaired on the outdoor play area. This is now completed and fully secure

What is being done well?

The manager and staff team are enthusiastic and competent, they provide a caring, secure environment for young children. There are sufficient numbers of staff present working directly with the children so that children are well cared for and their individual needs are met. (Standards 1 & 2) Staff development is regarded as being important and they attend further courses relevant to pre-school practice. A regular appraisal system is in place which enables staff to identify any future training needs. (Standard 2) Staff make good use of the premises, the daily routine and the rota by using rooms effectively so that all children are included and benefit from the activities on offer (Standards 2 & 3) A good range of resources, equipment and practical activities are readily accessible for the children, which supports their learning in all areas of development. (Standards 3 & 5) Children settle happily into the pre-school routine, they are eager, interested and enjoy their play and learning. They socialize well with each other and with staff. (Standard 3)

What needs to be improved?

the information given to parents regarding the equal opportunities policy, the child protection procedures and the OFSTED complaints telephone number. (Standard 12) The accident book to ensure confidentiality is maintained. (Standard 7) the recording of medication administration to ensure this has been countersigned by a parent. (Standard 7)

Outcome of the inspection

Good

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

| Std | Action | Date |
|-----|--------|------|
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The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

| Std | Recommendation |
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| 7 | Consider revising the accident book to ensure confidentiality is maintained |
| 7 | Ensure parents countersign any medication that has been administered |

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| 12 | Ensure parents are aware of; the equal opportunities policy, the child protection procedures and the OFSTED complaints telephone number. |
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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.