



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 131571

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/01/2004
Inspector Name	Lorraine Wardlaw

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Stephens Early Years Centre
Setting Address	Oakley Road Southampton Hampshire SO16 4LG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Ms Kay Alison Doswell
------	-----------------------

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

Stephens Early Years Centre opened in 1990. It operates from a dance studio in Shirley, Southampton and serves the local community.

There are currently 50 children on roll, aged from 2 to 5 years. This includes funded 3 and 4 year olds.

The early years centre is an inclusive setting and supports 13 children with special needs. It also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The centre opens 5 days a week during school term time. A breakfast session runs from 08.30 to 09.00, a morning session from 09.00 until 11.30, lunch session from 11.30 to 12.30 and an afternoon session from 12.30 until 15.00.

Nine full-time staff work with the children. Six staff members have early years qualifications and three staff members are working towards early years qualifications. The early years centre receives support from the Head of Special Educational Needs for Southampton and has accreditation from the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

The early years centre provides a good standard of care for children. The centre is organised well, with good procedures and policies in place which underpin the smooth running of the group. However some slight amendments need to be made to the paperwork.

Staff give high priority to keeping children safe. Staff value children's individuality and have a professional approach to meeting their needs. Although the designated person for child protection is knowledgeable, all staff should be aware of the procedures to protect children.

The early years centre offers a good range of toys and activities for children to freely access and plan topical activities to aid their development. Staff interact positively with children and manage children's behaviour in an age appropriate manner and with praise. Staff give effective support to children with special needs.

The early years centre puts a high emphasis on establishing good partnership with parents and carers. Staff involve parents in the children's learning and keep parents

fully informed of their child's care.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Children are able to self-select from a broad range of activities and resources. Children relate well to adults and others and enjoy imaginative play. Staff build good relationships with children and all children contribute to making a big book each term, based on the topic, such as nursery rhymes.● Staff are vigilant about security and safety of the children. They carry out risk assessments when the children take part in activities outside the centre, and they maintain high staff to child ratios.● There is a strong emphasis on equal opportunities throughout the centre. Staff ensure that all children are equally valued and are included in activities and routines. All children are learning basic sign language and there are special learning programmes in place to ensure all the children's needs are met. Staff work well in partnership with other professionals.● Children behave well and staff praise children's achievements. Children are caring towards others and often give help to those children in need.● The centre has a very good partnership with parents. They keep parents well informed of their child's care, through the key worker system and regular newsletters. The setting puts much emphasis on involving parents in children's learning, by including them on training courses, informing parents of activities that can be done at home and the 'ready steady cook' initiative. This involves parents choosing their own recipe and cooking it with a group of children, which is recorded in a book with photographs. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

What needs to be improved?

- | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● the registration system● staff's knowledge of the child protection procedure. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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	Ensure registration system includes arrival and departure times of staff and children.
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures.

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.