



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY221535

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 28/05/2003
Inspector Name Janice Linsdell

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name The Stables Nursery
Setting Address Grimsditch Lane
Lower Whitley
Warrington
WA4 4ED

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Stables

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

The Stables Nursery School opened in March 2002. The nursery operates from a converted stable barn located in the rural area of Lower Whitley, on the outskirts of Warrington. Children are accommodated within four rooms, according to age. The nursery serves the local area. The nursery is registered to provide care for 53 children aged from one to five years. There are currently 70 children on roll. This includes seven funded three year olds and five funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Two children have special needs and the group supports two children who speak English as an additional language. The nursery opens five days a week all year round, except bank holidays. Sessions are from 8.00am until 6.00pm, Monday to Friday. Eight full-time and four part-time staff work with the children. Nine have early years qualifications. Three staff are currently on training programmes. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

The Stables Nursery School provides good quality care for children. The nursery provides a happy, welcoming and caring environment for children and parents. The premises are safe and secure and the children's rooms are bright and spacious. Operational procedures are effective and have a positive impact on children. Records and policies are well organised and most are accurate and well maintained. Staff qualifications are above minimum standards and further training is encouraged. Staff are responsive to children's individual needs. They value children as individuals and treat them with respect. Staff are vigilant about children's safety and most areas within the nursery are safe and free from hazards. Staff actively promote health and hygiene in the nursery and high standards are maintained. The children are happy, confident and well cared for. They enjoy their time at the nursery and take part in a range of stimulating activities, which help them to make good progress in all areas of learning. Good relationships are developed with parents and they are kept well informed about the provision and their children. Feedback from parents is very positive, particularly in relation to the staff, the variety of activities provided and the environment within which children are cared for.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the first inspection since initial registration. The completion of a new extension has enabled more children to be accommodated in the nursery. This has

improved facilities for the children by providing more space and enabling the children to be accommodated in age related groups. A new, fully enclosed decking area has been created in the garden, which affords more opportunities for outdoor play in a safe and secure area.

What is being done well?

all staff are qualified, or working towards qualifications in early years. They work well together as a team and continue to develop their knowledge and skills through further training. (Standard 2) the staff have warm and trusting relationships with the children. They interact positively with them and offer lots of praise and encouragement. Children are settled and comfortable in their environment. (Standard 3) the staff have positive relationships with parents. They work in partnership with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. (Standard 12)

What needs to be improved?

the procedures for completing the daily register for children and staff, so that an accurate record is maintained. (Standard 2) safety issues relating to the carpet and the stairs, to ensure that hazards to children are minimised. (Standard 6)

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 |
|-----|--------|------|
|-----|--------|------|

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

| Std | Recommendation |
|-----|--|
| 6 | Protect children from the following hazards: - the rippled carpet in the 2-3 area - the top of the stairs in the 3-5 area (Standard 6) |
| 14 | Ensure that an accurate record is maintained for the attendance of children and staff (Standard 14) |

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.