



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY252801

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	06/07/2004
Inspector Name	Christine Pettitt

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	Take5
Setting Address	Green Lane Hemel Hempstead Hertfordshire HP2 4SA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Beverley Anne Platten
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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.

Information about the setting

Take 5 is an Out of School Club currently solely for pupils attending Leverstock Green School. The facility is open term time only, Monday to Friday from 3:15 until 6:00pm. The provision is registered for 40 children ages 4 - 8 years. Children aged up to 11 years attend. The maximum number of children attending the provision at any one time is 40. The children are able to commence at the club when they are rising 5.

The setting provides a relaxed, enjoyable, learning environment. A variety of activities are on offer both indoors and outside. These take place in the dining area and the hall, with use of outside quad area and the school fields and playground. There are cloakrooms adjacent to the dining area.

Take 5 is privately owned by the supervisor of the after school club. Two of the staff are holders of NVQ level 3 child care qualifications. The third permanent member of staff intends to commence NVQ level 2 soon. There is a casual worker who may be called on to work in emergencies.

How good is the Day Care?

Take 5 after school club provides good care for children.

The environment is hygienic, safe and well maintained. There is a health and safety policy. Risk assessments are reviewed regularly and safety issues identified are promptly dealt with. The staff team are aware of safety and hygiene issues which they promote with the children. They are conscientious in their supervision of the children.

A varied programme of activities are provided in a relaxed, caring, calm, happy atmosphere. The activities include those for outside play. The children are given opportunity for choices and to suggest activities. There is a varied selection of play resources on offer each day, covering most types of play. These are rotated on a weekly basis. To meet the needs of proposed younger children the resources will be reviewed and extended, including those reflecting equal opportunities. The staff have a caring, sensitive approach and show they value the children by their conversations and interest in them. Individual needs and preferences of the children are asked for and acknowledged. There is a positive approach towards behaviour management.

An effective partnership with parents has been established. A brochure, newsletters and a notice board are used to communicate with parents. Verbal feed back is given when children are collected. The policies and procedures are available for parents to access. The questionnaires indicate the parents appreciation of the care their children receive.

The required documentation is accessible and well organised. There is a confidentiality policy. The required policies are filed in a policy and procedure file. The owner and staff have a commitment to providing a professional service. Staff have attended training courses and have identified future courses to attend.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the first inspection since registration.

What is being done well?

- The children have a broad range of activities, including a creative opportunity, on offer each day. If they do not wish to participate in a group activity, a staff member engages with them in another activity. Occasionally they complete individually or as a group, a survey of preferred activities and foods. Activities are often child led and spontaneous. On the inspection day the children engaged in building and experimenting with a marble run together. The staff have a caring approach, indicating they value the children by their conversations and interest. For the younger children the key worker system will take place initially.
- There is a behaviour management policy which highlights how to promote acceptable behaviour. The children receive praise and encouragement in their activities. The staff respect the children and quietly request their obedience. The children were polite and a happy rapport between staff and children was observed. Acceptable behaviour appears to be related to the effective relationships the staff have established with the children.
- The information for parents is detailed, providing an initial picture of the provision. Ongoing communication by newsletters, notice board and verbal information takes place regularly. There is a display board for children's creative work. A photo album provides evidence of activities. The staff are supportive of the parents and considerate of their needs. For example if the children are attending an event at the school after the club, if parents give written permission the staff will ensure the children attend. Parents can also request a place for their child on the day it is required, if there are places available. The parent questionnaire states that " the staff are very friendly and helpful," "individual needs of the children are taken into consideration", the children " love it and feel happy and safe."

What needs to be improved?

- the induction programme

- resources for role play and to promote equal opportunities.
- the special needs policy

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	review induction programme to include checklist.
5	review and extend resources to meet the needs of younger children with regard to role play and include resources to promote equal opportunities.
10	review and extend special needs policy to clarify procedures as an anticipatory measure.

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.