



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 254052

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/05/2003
Inspector Name Julie Denise Edmonds

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Fairhaven First Steps Pre-School
Setting Address South Walsham Village Hall
School Road, South Walsham
NORWICH
Norfolk
NR13 6DZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Catherine Scrivner

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

Fairhaven First Steps Pre-School is committee run and opened in 1998 in it's current premises. The group is registered to care for 24 children aged between two and four years and operates from one room at the local village hall in South Walsham. They are currently applying for funding for an enclosed outdoor play area. The majority of the funding needed has been agreed. The pre-school serves the local area.

There are currently 19 children from two to four years on roll. This includes eight funded three year olds and three funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. No children attending having special needs or speak English as an additional language.

The group open three days a week, Wednesday to Friday during school term times. Sessions are from 9:30 am to 12 noon.

There are four staff, two part-time and two full time. The supervisor is qualified to NVQ level 3 and the assistant has almost completed training to NVQ level 2. Two staff have attended introductory training to NVQ level 1 and will attend training to NVQ level 2 when available.

The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Fairhaven First Steps Pre-School provides satisfactory care overall.

The overall organisation of the setting is satisfactory with clear practices in place to ensure that only vetted persons have unsupervised access to the children. The staff rota allows all children to know all staff. Staff are encouraged to attend training. A large storage area for toys and equipment is used effectively and includes new items recently purchased. Satisfactory paperwork is generally in place.

Safety is monitored. Risk assessments are effectively used to identify areas where temporary measures are taken each session to ensure the children's safety. The care provided includes good organisation of snack time. The group has good systems in place to support and include any children who are identified who may have special needs, in line with parent's wishes.

Good emphasis is placed on developing topics to stimulate children's learning and staff support the children to make progress. Children are praised and encouraged. There is a suitable balance of times to be active and times to relax. Activities do not include a wide enough range of free creative play opportunities.

There is a good partnership with parents, with regular information provided. The group respond to comments made by parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group agreed to ensure sufficient, suitable play materials and child sized furniture is provided at each session. Also to plan and select resources and provide opportunities and first hand experiences to aid children's development. Generally these have now been suitably addressed. However, there are still not enough opportunities for children to use resources, such as free painting, craft activities, play dough and water play to express their own ideas freely.

The group also agreed to improve the organisation of resources so that they are readily accessible to children and ensure fresh drinking water is available to children at all times. All resources are now within children's reach and a jug of water and cups are available throughout the session.

Conducting a risk assessment of the premises and ensuring it is regularly reviewed was also agreed as an area for improvement and the group now have daily risk assessment check lists in use and take measures to minimise risks identified.

What is being done well?

- Adults work together well as a team to ensure that the children are well cared for and sessions run smoothly. There is good emphasis on staff gaining qualifications and attending workshops and awareness training to up-date their knowledge. (Standard 2)
- Good organisation of snack-time with children involves learning social skills and the choice of drink and snack. (Standard 8)
- Staff make very good use of topics to extend children's learning, in many aspects of development, through a range of first hand experiences. Staff support the children in their learning, talking to them and taking part in activities with them. Management of children's behaviour is positive with praise and encouragement used. (Standard 3)
- Action is taken and reviewed, with parents involved, and appropriate records are kept, where children are identified who may have special needs. (Standard 10)

What needs to be improved?

- procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency to include a specific accident procedure (Standard 14)

- systems for updating policies and procedures, including the complaints procedure, to include the address and telephone number of the regulator (Standard 14)
- the availability of creative resources at each session, such as free painting, craft activities, play dough and water play (Standard 3)

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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
3	provide free play creative and imaginative play opportunities at each session, such as free painting, craft activities, play dough, water play (Standard 3)
6	develop procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency to include a specific accident procedure (Standards 6 and 14)
12	update policies and procedures, including the complaints procedure to include the address and telephone number of the regulator (Standards 12 and 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.