



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109593

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	13/05/2003
Inspector Name	Mary Daniel

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	St Gabriels Pre-school
Setting Address	Keysworth Road Poole Dorset BH16 5BH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St Gabriels Pre-School Committee 24740
------	---

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

<p>St. Gabriel's pre-school is registered as a full day care provider and operates from a purpose built building, situated in Turlin Moor, near to the main town of Poole. Children have use of one main play room, which is divided by low screens, creating two areas for younger and older children. There is an enclosed garden adjacent to the building. This pre-school is managed by a church committee and has been registered for over thirty years, serving a large residential area within the nearby vicinity. Staff can offer care for up to thirty children aged from two to five years, eight of whom may be under three years, at each session. The pre- school is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 09:00am - 15:00pm, and on Wednesday and Friday from 08:00am to 15:00pm, term time only. There are ten permanent staff and an overall manager, the majority of staff hold a child care qualification or are currently receiving training. Staff are committed to ongoing training. Seven staff members are qualified in first aid. St Gabriel's pre-school is in receipt of funding for three and four year olds and caters for children with special needs. The group work closely with the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.</p>
--

How good is the Day Care?

<p>St Gabriel's pre-school is offering good day care for children. The pre-school is well managed, with clear operational procedures in place. Policies are clear, shared with parents and updated. Staff are deployed well, all working together effectively as a team. There is a supportive committee in place who give guidance to the group and help in arranging fundraising events. All involved with this group have a clear, constant direction for improvement. The pre-school has a bright, welcoming environment and provides a varied daily routine which overall supports children's development, although longer large group activities may not meet the needs of all children. There is a wide range of suitable play resources, which are kept within a well organised storage system. Mealtimes are sociable and relaxed, however independence skills and awareness of healthy eating could be further developed. There are clear safety procedures in place, giving a secure comfortable play area. Staff put emphasis on including all children and families within the group, ensuring all involved feel valued and welcomed. Staff have a good understanding of children's particular needs and stages of development and offer a caring, reassuring, consistent approach. Behaviour is well managed with emphasis on promoting good behaviour. Partnership with parents is good, staff valuing and encouraging their involvement within the group. There is a clear system in place for maintaining documentation and this is used with regard to confidentiality.</p>

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection actions were set to form an administration of medication and sick child policy, a no smoking policy, to update the equal opportunities policy to include reference to relevant legislation, and to develop a staff induction programme. These actions have all been met satisfactorily. The policies are now in place and have been updated, a comprehensive induction plan has been formed, and a member of staff has responsibility for supporting new staff in induction. The group have now put a procedure in place for recording the attendance of visitors, and use an appraisal system for reviewing their own practice and procedures.

What is being done well?

There are clear, effective, operational procedures in place, which are reviewed regularly to meet the changing needs of the group. The committee and staff work well together, having clear direction for continual improvement, and maintaining good practice. There is a good staff structure in place allowing efficient management, staff deployment and use of individual expertise. New staff follow a comprehensive induction programme which is well monitored. The majority of staff are qualified in child care or are currently completing courses and have a commitment to ongoing training. (Standard 2). Staff provide a warm, welcoming, secure environment for children, with space used effectively, through use of low screens, to create different play areas. These screens are decorated with bright pictures, posters and photos, making an exciting, interesting play room where children and their families are welcomed and valued within the group. (Standard 4). Safety procedures are well monitored, with regular risk assessments undertaken and all staff aware of their own responsibilities with emergency procedures. There is a good system established for managing the security of the premises, ensuring safety in the arrival and departure of the children. (Standard 6). The behaviour of the children is very good. Staff give a consistent, calm approach in which children kept occupied and involved through a wide range of activities. Staff act as good role models using lots of praise and encouragement, and giving clear explanations to help children develop their own understanding of right and wrong. (Standard 11). Good relationships are formed with parents. Staff value parental involvement and work closely with them to ensure their child's needs are met within the group. Staff offer regular opportunities to liaise on the care and developmental progress of their child, and support children and parents well throughout their time at the pre-school. (Standard 12).

What needs to be improved?

snack time to develop independence skills and awareness of healthy eating. (Standard 8). large group times to ensure younger children are not sitting for long periods. (Standard 2). reference within the complaints policy, to whom parents can address concerns. (Standard 12).

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
2	review large group activities to ensure the needs of all children are met.
8	develop opportunities to encourage children's independence skills and awareness of healthy eating.
12	ensure complaints policy includes all relevant contacts for concerns.

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.