



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 465326

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/10/2004
Inspector Name Julie Washer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name CHIPS Saturday Club
Setting Address Sele Youth Wing
Sele School
Hertford
Hertfordshire

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of CHIPS Saturday Club 1069535

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name CHIPS Saturday Club
Address Chips
PO Box 132
Hertford
Hertfordshire
SG14 2FT

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

CHIPS Saturday Club opened in 1997. It operates from the Youth Wing within the grounds of the Sele Secondary School in Hertford. The group has access to a large hall, toilets, a kitchen and a quiet room. The Saturday Club serves the East Hertfordshire area and provides out of school care for children with special needs and their siblings.

There are currently 24 children from three to fifteen years on roll. The group are registered care for thirty children from three to eight years. Children attend for a variety of sessions according to their age.

The club opens three Saturdays out of every four during school term times. Sessions last from 10:00 until 12:30.

At the time of the inspection there were six paid staff and twelve volunteers working with the children. Staff have a variety of qualifications and experience.

How good is the Day Care?

CHIPS Saturday Club in Hertford provides good care for children. The setting is warm and welcoming to children and their parents. There is a high level of staff and volunteers who support the children effectively. Staff provide a varied range of resources that are accessible to the children and they organise the available space to ensure children are well cared for. Most of the documentation is in place although some amendments are required.

Staff provide a safe and secure environment for the children. They have a good awareness of health and safety issues and give high priority to the children's welfare at all times. Staff have an excellent understanding of children's individual needs and work closely with their families to ensure the best possible care is given. They value and include all children and are able to offer appropriate care and support according to their individual needs and interests. Staff are aware of their responsibilities with regard to child protection.

Children benefit from a range of activities and play opportunities which allows them to use their imagination and promotes their welfare and development. Staff interact effectively with them, they value what children say and talk to them about what they are doing. They encourage them to be independent and confident. Staff value

positive behaviour and use lots of praise and encouragement with the children. Strategies for dealing with behaviour are appropriate to the children's stages of development and individual needs.

The partnership with parents is good. Staff successfully work closely with parents which enables them to meet the individual needs and interests of children attending the club. Parents are welcomed by friendly and approachable staff who share information about their children. Positive comments were received from parents in the written questionnaires 'staff are fantastic and very understanding'.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the club agreed to ensure hazards to children were minimised with reference to glass bottles and other hazards outside, a blocked toilet, the entrance door and electrical sockets. They were also asked to record details of fire drills.

The above actions have been met. The situation regarding the toilet has been rectified, a buzzer has been fitted to the entrance door and electrical sockets are fitted with covers. The group will continue to work in partnership with the school to identify any safety issues both inside and outside and have agreed to meet any recommendations made by the Fire Safety Officer, with reference to the frequency of fire drills and related records. At the time of the inspection one fire drill record was seen for October 2004.

As a result of action taken children's safety and welfare are improved.

What is being done well?

- Staff interact with children effectively and provide a well balanced range of activities which are appropriate to the individual needs of the children attending.
- Staff attend relevant training courses and information sessions. They have an excellent knowledge and understanding of caring for children with special needs. They know the children and their families well and ensure that all the individual needs of the children can be met.
- Staff give high regard to the children's safety and well being at all times which enables them to move freely in a safe environment. Staff manage children's behaviour well. They value, praise and encourage positive behaviour and skilfully manage minor disruptions sensitively.
- Partnership with parents is good. There are clear policies and information in place for them. Staff work closely with parents to ensure the best possible care for their children.

What needs to be improved?

- the behaviour management and child protection policies

- safety in relation to identified hazards on the school premises
- the procedures for ensuring frequent fire drills are carried out.

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
14	Develop the behaviour management policy to include bullying and the child protection policy to include ACPC procedures, 'What To Do If You are Worried A Child is Being Abused and procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff.
6	Continue to work in partnership with the school to address any identified safety issues.
6	Meet any recommendations made by the Fire Safety Officer, in this case particularly relating to the frequency of fire drills and ensure records are kept to his satisfaction.

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.