



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY246158

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	12/01/2005
Inspector Name	Jill Steer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	The Willows
Setting Address	Willow Brook Centre Bowmont Water Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 7GA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of The Management Committee of Ladygrove Pre-School
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Management Committee of Ladygrove Pre-School
Address	Willow Brook Centre Beaumont Water Oxfordshire OX11 7GA

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 Willows Pre-School is based in their own room with their own enclosed outdoor play space within The Willowbrook Leisure Centre on the Ladygrove Estate. It opened in October 2002 and provides sessional day care for a maximum of 26 children aged 2.5 to 5 years of age. The group is open each weekday from 9.05am - 11.35am and 12.15pm - 2.45pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Thursday 9.05am - 11.35am, school term times only.

There are currently 71 children on roll. Of these 40 children receive funding for nursery education. Children mostly attend from the local area of Ladygrove and from the town of Didcot. The group currently supports three children who speak English as an additional language.

How good is the Day Care?

The Willows Pre-school provides good quality care for children. The group offer a clean and bright environment for young children to learn through play. The space is well organised to allow children to move freely around the activities which include creative, imaginative, physical, and free play. A clear induction programme is in place which ensures staff are familiar with the policies. Staff recruitment however, does not provide for a minimum of half the staff to be suitably qualified at all times.

A clear awareness of safety is acknowledged by all staff and precautions are in place to safeguard the children. Good hygiene practice is encouraged and children are able to manage the facilities independently. Healthy and nutritious snacks are provided but the children are not fully involved in the preparation. Drinks are offered at snack time only. Daily routines provide for the needs of the children, allowing time to make choices through independent play both indoors and out.

There are effective methods for ensuring children behave well and staff readily give praise and encouragement. Staff are aware of child protection issues and will deal with concerns promptly. Activities are planned around a theme where children are given opportunities for free play and adult led activities. Staff are supportive to the individual needs of the children and allow many opportunities for them to explore, develop confidence and independence.

The staff actively encourage parents involvement in the pre-school and are able to work together to ensure the children's needs are fully met. Parents are provided with

comprehensive information about the setting via the Parent folder. The parents are happy with the care their children receive.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- A stimulating, fun environment is provided which extends the children's learning in all areas. Staff are attentive to the children and spend time addressing their needs, they engage in play and the relationships are warm and friendly. The children are therefore happy and settled in the provision.
- The staff have developed effective procedures to identify risks and ensure the safety of the children is prioritised at all times.
- The staff provide sessions which can be adapted to meet the individual needs of children. They understand children's needs may vary and have a flexible approach to ensure they are fully met. The activities provided reflect the ages and abilities of the children attending each session.
- By incorporating the snack time into the session, the children's play is not unnecessarily disrupted. Therefore they have more time to experience all the activities prepared, and to extend their learning opportunities.
- Adults handling of behaviour is consistent and respects children's level of understanding, ensuring they learn right from wrong.
- The staff have good relationships with the parents and work closely with them to ensure the children's individual needs are met. Information is shared on a daily basis and parents are encouraged to spend time in the Pre-school. This enables them to fully share their children's experiences in the group.

What needs to be improved?

- the numbers of qualified staff;
- the privacy of children using the toilets.

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	Have effective procedures in place to ensure half of all childcare staff will hold a minimum level 2 qualification in childcare
4	Provide for the children's privacy when using the toilets.

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.