



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305385

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	14/02/2005
Inspector Name	Gillian Sutherland

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	The Spinney Day Nursery
Setting Address	Warrington Road Hoole Village Chester Cheshire CH2 3PA

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Alison Dianne Thomson
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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

The Spinney Day Nursery was registered in 1998. It operates from a purpose built extension attached to the house known as The Spinney. It is situated in Hoole Village, near Chester.

The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 07.30 to 18.30 and is open throughout the year excluding bank holidays. All children share access to secure outdoor play areas.

There are currently 56 children aged from 0-5 years on roll in the day nursery and of these 14 children receive funding for nursery education. The nursery would supports children with special needs. Currently five children cared for speak English as a second language.

The manager ensures the correct staff/child ratio is met at all times the child care facility is operating. Twenty one members of staff are currently employed at The Spinney Day Nursery, fifteen of whom hold an appropriate child care qualification.

### How good is the Day Care?

The Spinney Day Nursery provides good care for children. The nursery has adequate play spaces/areas for the number of children it is registered for and those areas are warm and welcoming to the children and their parents. The play space both indoors and outdoors is very well equipped with toys and resources, all of which are appropriate for the different ages of the children attending. All appropriate documentation is maintained, however with regard to personal details relating to the staff, the current procedures do not comply with current legislation.

The staff are vigilant and ensure that any possible hazards are minimised or eliminated. Fire drills are practised and ensure that children are aware of the procedures that would be implemented in the event of a fire. Accident and medication procedures do comply with Ofsted's requirements and all the staff hold current first aid certificates. There is one issue which needs addressing and it is regarding a room/area which has occasionally been used by babies for sleeping in.

There is a very wide and varied range of toys and resources available for children to access on a daily basis and this does include some which reflect positive images of ethnicity, gender and very few reflecting disability. Activities are always planned in

advance by the staff and the daily activity plans are on display for parents to look at and staff to refer to.

The staff have developed an effective partnership with parents. A pre-admission discussion is held with all parents and at this meeting parents have the opportunity to identify any individual needs their child may have and an agreement reached as to how those needs will be met whilst attending the nursery. All nursery policies and procedures are available to parents although the owner is going to look at how access to those documents can be improved. The complaints policy also needs to be reviewed and revised.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

At the last inspection six actions were raised all of which have been addressed by the provider. Three of those actions related to documentation and the fire officer's report following the increase in registered numbers was available, an outings policy has been devised and I was assured that the owner had sent copies of her driving documentation in to Ofsted as requested. The other three actions related to safety and now the heating unit/radiator in the conservatory has been made inaccessible to children, the kitchen door is always kept closed and a complete risk assessment of the premises is carried out on a regular basis.

All of these actions ensure that children cared for are safe, in line with the national standards.

#### **What is being done well?**

- The nursery does make available to the children a wide and varied range of age appropriate activities. The activity programme is planned in advance by the staff working in each of the different areas, and the staff ensure that the activities provided help the children to progress in all areas of development.
- Good interaction between the staff and the children was observed throughout the nursery and the staff asked the children open ended questions to encourage the children join in the conversation. At snack time all staff sit down with the children to enjoy a drink and snack and also at lunchtime staff sit down and eat lunches with the children making these social occasions and again an opportunity to engage the children in conversation.
- The layout and design of the nursery ensures that there is adequate play space available for the children in the different age groups. There is also access to well designed outdoor play areas which are equipped with a range of appropriate toys and resources. Children here play safely with balls, and other outdoor equipment, and also participate in more energetic play/games.
- The staff in all the rooms/areas gave reassurance and appropriate praise to the children. This was observed in many different situations throughout the morning, and within the different age groups.
- The nursery staff have developed an effective partnership with the parents of the children they care for. A very well designed, jargon free newsletter is

given out regularly to all parents and informs them of future events, and also any changes in nursery practices and to the staff team if applicable.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the record keeping of personal information held on staff
- the indoor sleeping arrangements for babies
- the provision of toys reflecting diversity
- the dissemination of policies and procedures
- the familiarisation of local child protection procedures.

#### **PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)**

There are no complaints to report from the 1st April 2004.

#### **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
1	Ensure that only the relevant details from the CRB clearance documentation is maintained by the provider.
4	Ensure that appropriate areas are used for any child requiring a sleep and one where children can be closely supervised.
9	Continue to expand the range of toys and resources which reflect diversity, and particularly the area relating to disability.
12	Ensure that all parents are made aware of the contact details of the regulatory body, Ofsted, should they have a concern or a complaint they

	may wish to raise.
12	Consider how parents can have improved access to the nursery policies and procedures, and how they can be informed that this is available to them.
13	Ensure that all staff are familiar / aware of the local child protection procedures and the steps that should be taken if there was a concern about a child in their care.

## **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.*