



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 310351

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	15/03/2005
Inspector Name	Shirley Leigh Monks-Meagher

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Melrose Private Day Nursery School
Setting Address	6 Melrose Avenue Sale Cheshire M33 3AZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Jacqueline Knutton
------	------------------------

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

Melrose Day Nursery has been in operation since 1970 and it has been under the present management since 1994. It operates Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 18:00 for 51 weeks of the year, closing only for Christmas and bank holidays. Children's attendance varies within these limits. It mainly caters for children from the local community and some whose parents work in the locality.

There are currently 43 children from six months to four years on roll. This includes nine children in receipt of the nursery education grant. The nursery supports children with English as an additional language.

The Nursery is situated in the Sale area of Trafford. Accommodation is on the ground and first floor of a converted, detached private dwelling and, in addition, children have access to a secure garden with both paved and grassed areas. Babies and younger children use three playrooms on the ground floor whilst pre-school children have two playrooms on the first floor.

There are nine staff working directly with the children, of whom, six hold suitable early years qualifications equivalent to NVQ levels two or three, and three are working towards them. There is also a cook and a cleaner. The Nursery is a member of the National Day Nursery Association and enjoys support from the Trafford Early Years and Play Team.

How good is the Day Care?

Melrose Private Nursery School provides satisfactory overall care for children. The premises are bright, warm and welcoming. All the children have space to play in comfort. However, the organisation and grouping of the under three's is less effective and children lack stability. A range of quality toys and equipment to meet children's needs is available. The older children can freely access resources, strengthen their understanding of the wider world and make choices. Relevant documentation is in place.

There are some areas of safety which are not given sufficient emphasis. Good attention is paid to cleanliness and the premises are generally well maintained. Children are provided with satisfactory meals and snacks which respect individual dietary requirements. Staff demonstrate a basic understanding of child protection issues and the procedures.

Good relationships are formed with staff and children. Staff know children well, they spend time playing and talking with them. They use opportunities to develop children's language as they involve themselves in children's play. Although children under three benefit from a variety of activities, these are not based on the individual needs of children. Staff use consistent and appropriate methods to manage children's behaviour.

Parents are provided with information about the nursery and their children's development and progress through a variety of sources both formal and informal.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the nursery agreed to ensure the privacy and dignity of children using the toilets, record staff presence during the fire drills and use for future planning of same and to ensure that electrical and other appliances conform to safety requirements.

The nursery have fitted partitions into the bathroom area to make individual toilet cubicles enabling children to have privacy and maintain their dignity when attending to their personal needs. All electrical appliances have undergone a safety check. An annual maintenance contract has been entered into to sustain their safety. The fire log contains records of staff and fire precautions are in place and known to staff. Fire drills are undertaken but with insufficient regularity. Consequently the children's environment is safer.

What is being done well?

- A warm and welcoming environment is created for children and parents. The nursery is well-maintained and rooms are very clean. Children's work and photographs of children at their activities are displayed.
- Positive, warm relationships are formed. Good behaviour is rewarded by praise and children's achievements are recognised and encouraged promoting children's self-esteem and confidence.
- Provision for the pre-school children is good. Well planned activities with clear learning objectives help children to make progress. Well organised learning areas promote children's independence and initiative.

What needs to be improved?

- the organisation and grouping of children under three years
- the curriculum for children under three years
- the safety of the premises
- the resources which reflect diversity for children under three years.

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 has been two complaints since April 2004 relating to Standard 1: Suitable person, Standard 2: Organisation and Standard 13: Child protection. Investigations took place and actions were made. The provider was required to ensure the following were in place:

Ensure suitability of all staff with access to children.

Deployment and training of staff.

Daily attendance records of staff and children.

The child protection procedures comply with the Local Authority Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

These actions have all been met and the provider remains qualified for registration.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date
2	Provide an action plan to demonstrate how children under three will be grouped and organised, making best use of space, staff and resources, to provide for their emotional security and meet individual needs.	31/03/2005
6	Conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying actions to be taken to minimise risks.	31/03/2005

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
3	Develop the curriculum for the under three's to effectively track children's progress and development and be able to plan for their next steps.
9	Provide a selection of play materials and resources to positively reflect our diverse society, for the children under three years.

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.