



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 221749

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	09/04/2003
Inspector Name	Susan Christine Mcguire

### SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	Eaton Socon Pre-School
Setting Address	38a Queens Gardens St. Neots Cambridgeshire PE19 8DN

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Eaton Socon Pre-School
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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.

<b>Information about the setting</b>
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Eaton Socon Pre-school is a voluntary organisation providing sessional care for children between the ages of two and five years old. It has been registered for over twenty years, and serves the densely populated area of Eaton Socon which is a suburb of St. Neots. It operates in it's own building and comprises 2 playrooms, two toilet areas for children and one for staff, an office and a kitchen. There are currently one hundred and fifteen children on roll, which includes funded three and four year-olds. The group is well-equipped to receive children with special needs. The group operates five days a week during term-time. Sessions last from 9.15 am - 11.45 am and 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm. A lunch club is also available. Nine staff work with the children. All have, or are working towards, relevant qualifications.
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<b>How good is the Day Care?</b>
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The group provides good sessional care for children aged 2 -5 years old. The group operates with a high adult/child ratio, and staff show a commitment to on-going training. The staff work well as a team, running parallel sessions in the 2 rooms, yet coming together as a whole group when they feel this would benefit the children. Staff give a high priority to ensuring the safety of the children both inside and outside the premises, whilst also creating a welcoming environment for all children and their families. Safety of the children is constantly being reviewed, and identified issues are dealt with appropriately. The sessions are well-resourced with a wide variety of activities and equipment which meets the needs of all children present. Great emphasis is placed on equality of opportunity for all children, and they are encouraged to make their own choices about their play and learning. Staff have good listening and questioning skills so that children get the most out of each activity they participate in. Staff are also good role models, giving children good examples of how to treat each other. Good relationships with parents are fostered in a variety of ways. All policies of the group are available in the entrance and staff make themselves available for discussions on request. Some documentation, however, requires updating, in order to meet the requirements of the National Standards. These are the complaints procedure and the registration system.
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<b>What has improved since the last inspection?</b>
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N/A - no actions were identified at the transitional inspection.
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**What is being done well?**

The high adult/child ratio allows staff to spend some time with individual children. This enables them to extend the activity for the child, and to take opportunities develop language and numeracy skills. Staff are also very aware of when to direct an activity and when to 'stand back' and allow child-led play to develop thus giving children the opportunity for imaginative play. (Standard 3) Provision for children with special needs is very good. Additional staff are employed to ensure that children with special needs can participate fully in the session. The SENCO supports the families of the children, and has been pro-active in setting up support meetings for other groups in the area who have children with special needs. (Standard 10) Partnership with parents is given a high priority, and the two rooms are set out so that the same information is available for all. Regular parents evenings are held, and a private office is available for confidential discussions. (Standard 12) Staff pay great attention to the safety of the children both inside and outside the premises, and take steps to improve this whenever they identify a problem. (Standard 6)

**An aspect of outstanding practice:**

Staff have an excellent approach to equal opportunity issues, involving the families of children from different ethnic backgrounds so that the resources provided reflect their needs accurately. This creates a very welcoming environment for all, and teaches the children to value each other.

**What needs to be improved?**

- the registration system, so that it records the times of arrival and departure for children and staff. - the complaints procedure, so that it includes contact details of Ofsted.

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

Std	Recommendation
2	Registration system must show times of arrival and departure for both children and staff.
12	The complaints procedure for parents must be updated to include contact details of the regulator, i.e. Ofsted.

## **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.*