



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 146424

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/02/2004
Inspector Name Marie Tyler

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Rectory Lane Nursery
Setting Address Bridge Road West
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 2NU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Rectory Lane Nursery
Address 26 Gordian Way
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG2 7QF

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

Rectory Lane Nursery opened in 1998. It operates from a self contained building situated in the grounds of Woolenwick JMI school.

There are currently 72 children aged 2 to 5 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Some children bring a packed lunch and stay all day. The setting supports a number of children with special needs.

The nursery opens five days each week during school term time. Sessions are from 9.30 until 12.00 or 9.15 until 12.15 and from 12.30 until 15.30.

Eight staff are employed. Four members of staff have early years qualifications to NVQ Level 3, including NNEB qualifications. Two members of staff are working towards NVQ Level 3 qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Rectory Lane nursery provides satisfactory care for children. The premises are well maintained and welcoming. Children enjoy a varied range of stimulating activities, toys and play materials.

Staff are very aware of the importance of health and hygiene. They take sensible precautions to keep children safe and comprehensive policies and procedures inform daily practice. However an area within the nursery needs to be reviewed.

Children are relaxed, cheerful and busy. They relate well to staff and to each other. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged. Clear policies and procedures explain how appropriate behaviour, equal opportunities and special needs are promoted and managed. Staff are sensitive to the needs of individual children and suitable resources and activities promote equal opportunities for children. All staff attend regular training.

Most of the required documentation is maintained. Policies and procedures are comprehensive. Staff have friendly relationships with parents. Detailed records are maintained and information is shared informally with parents each day.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the manager agreed to ensure that heaters do not pose a hazard to children and to ensure that rooms are maintained at an adequate temperature.

Suitable fireguards have been constructed around the heaters.

A thermometer is used to monitor the temperature throughout each session and a comfortable temperature is maintained.

What is being done well?

- Children enjoy the stimulating range of daily activities. They listen attentively to stories and make enthusiastic efforts to sing action songs or to follow adult instructions for movement to music.
- Children cheerfully engage in various creative activities and they are keen to explore and play with the extensive resources which are well maintained.
- Children are friendly, confident and well behaved. Relations between staff and children are mutually respectful and relaxed.
- Staff support and encourage the children throughout each session and use their observations and records to inform planning. Staff are very aware of individual needs.
- Several children with special needs attend the nursery. Adult support is available where necessary. The emphasis is on helping children with different needs to integrate into the group. All the children, including those with special needs, are busy and happily involved in suitable activities.
- Snack time is a sociable, relaxed occasion when children sit together chatting to each other and to the adults. In addition to food provided by the nursery each child contributes a piece of fruit to the daily snack. All the fruit is shared and children discuss their likes and dislikes. Children clearly enjoy this very practical experience of sharing with others.
- Parents and children are encouraged to visit the nursery, informally, before children start to attend. Information for parents includes a booklet of policies, procedures and 'nursery rules'. Regular letters and a notice board help to keep parents informed and parents may request an individual daily record of the food consumed by their child. The very positive response to Parent Questionnaires indicates how much parents appreciate the provision and the opportunities it offers to their children.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures for recording staff attendance
- procedures with reference to child protection
- assessment and response to risk for one part of the premises

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

Std	Recommendation
2	make sure that staff records of attendance include the times when individual members of staff arrive and depart each day.
4	conduct a risk assessment of the store cupboard/staff cloakroom area, identifying action to be taken to minimise identified risks.
13	make sure that the child protection includes includes the procedure to be followed in the event that an allegation is made against a member of staff.

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.