



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113814

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 17/05/2004
Inspector Name Karin Lane

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Washington Playschool
Setting Address The Old School House, Rectory Lane
Ashington
Pulborough
West Sussex
RH20 3AS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Washington Playschool

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Washington Playschool
Address The Old School House
Rectory Lane, Ashington
Pulborough
West Sussex
RH20 3AS

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

Washington Playschool opened in 1999, moving to its current premises in 2000. It operates from 2 rooms in the old village school at Ashington. The playschool serves the local area.

There are currently 26 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 16 funded three-year-olds and 6 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently does not support any children with special needs or who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens from Monday to Thursday during school term-time. Sessions are from 09:00 until 12:00.

There are 4 full and part-time staff who work with the children. Half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

The setting provides good care for children. Staff hold suitable qualifications and the opportunity to up-date their skills by attending further relevant training. Most recruitment procedures are followed, and induction methods are appropriate. Staff are generally well deployed, devoting their time to the children. One room at the premises is well used, in the second room the way some equipment is displayed does not inspire the children to explore and investigate. There is plenty of equipment for both indoor and outdoor play. Staff: child ratio's are maintained, with good use of additional staff, as necessary. All required documentation is in place, however some lack detail.

Most safety measures are in place, and although the outside play space is difficult to supervise and check for hazards, as it is large and the grass untended, the staff are vigilant. The fire report is not being adhered to regarding the provision of fire extinguishers. The setting promotes the health and well-being of children, with most procedures followed. A nutritious snack and drink is provided for the children mid-morning. Staff are knowledgeable about the children as individuals, and there are good plans to support children who have special needs. There is suitable awareness of child protection issues, but the facility lacks supporting information to refer to.

Staff are friendly and interested in the children. Activities are planned which relate to the children's interests. The children have the opportunity to participate in varied activities both indoors and outside throughout the year. Independence is encouraged. There are effective methods of promoting good behaviour and children behave well.

Parents are kept well informed about the provision and of what their children have achieved.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The premises look bright and cheerful, with displays of the children's work and posters making it a welcoming environment.
- Children are encouraged to share and help one another. They are happy, well settled and have fun at the setting.
- There are good methods of keeping the premises secure. The use of an entry system and a chain on the door, ensure that children cannot leave the premises unattended, but also that all visitors are monitored.
- A healthy snack of fruit, which is provided by parents, is offered each day. Snack time is very sociable with plenty of conversation. Children help with the preparation of the fruit and putting out the plates, this enables the children to gain confidence and independence.
- A well devised application form is completed for each child by parents. This enables staff to have good knowledge of the children as individuals, what they like to do at home and what they are able to do. This helps with the settling in process.
- Parents are kept informed about the facility in various ways. There is an informative prospectus for new parents, policies and procedures are available together in a folder. There are notice boards which give relevant information about themes and what the children will be doing. Coffee mornings are held regularly, enabling parents to discuss their children's progress and see their records. These methods of communication show the facility values working in partnership with parents.

What needs to be improved?

- the recording of children's arrival and departure in the attendance register;
- the fire safety regarding the fire extinguishers as stated in the fire report;
- the permission from parents to obtain emergency treatment;
- the arrangements for hand washing after painting;

- the complaints procedure to include details of how to contact the regulator;
- the information available regarding child protection.

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	Consider the system of arrivals and departures of the children and how attendances are recorded.
6	Ensure the fire report is adhered to.
7	Ensure permission is gained from parents for emergency treatment.
7	Ensure suitable arrangements for handwashing after painting are in place.
12	Ensure the complaints procedure includes details of the regulator.
13	Ensure Government guidance and local Area Child Protection Committee information is available to refer to and included within the settings child protection procedure.

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.