



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY103182

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	17/11/2003
Inspector Name	Maggie Thorp

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Langdale Pre-School
Setting Address	St Vincents School The Ridgeway Mill Hill London NW7 1EL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Langdale Pre-School
------	--------------------------------------

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Langdale Pre-School
Address	St Vincents RC School The Ridgeway Mill Hill London NW7 1EL

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

Langdale Pre-school is run by a voluntary management committee of local people and was established in 1975. In 2001 the pre-school moved into and were registered in a self contained part of the new purpose built premises of St Vincent's Roman Catholic School in Mill Hill. The pre-school is a short walk from Mill Hill East tube station and is on green belt land. The pre-school has two play areas indoors and a large outdoor playground. It runs two nursery sessions 9:00-11:30 and 12:45-15:15 each week day, term time only.

Most children currently attending are from local Roman Catholic families however, those from other Christian denominations and other faiths are able to attend. Some children with special needs attend the nursery. The nursery receives nursery education funding for 35 children. There are 3 children who speak English as an additional language currently attending. All 6 members of staff hold appropriate qualifications. The Head and Deputy have level 3 early years qualifications and all the other staff have level 2 qualifications. The nursery receives support and advice from a teacher advisor from Barnet Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Langdale Pre-school provides good care for children. It is very well organised in all respects. The teamwork and staff's commitment to training and to constantly monitoring and developing the provision is excellent. This is underpinned by good management, clear well understood policies and good record keeping. Both the indoor and outside play areas are extremely well planned and resourced. Outdoors the plants and materials used for fences and fixed equipment make it aesthetically a very inviting place for children to play.

Steps taken to keep children healthy and safe are very effective. Nutritious snacks are offered and much thought goes into how to make good food attractive to children. Children with special educational needs are supported very effectively.

The very caring staff team are constantly available to children to extend and support their play and meet individual children's needs. Staff offer children an excellent balance of free choice and adult led activities both indoors and outside. The pre-school's equal opportunities policy covers all aspects of provision and is implemented effectively. Children's behaviour is good. Staff have clear, realistic

expectations of children which are reinforced with praise and explanation.

Staff work closely with parents to listen and respond to children and families' individual needs. New parents are given comprehensive information, and time for discussion. The settling of new children is taken at the pace appropriate for each individual.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- Staff are friendly and approachable, they give very good attention to the children and value each child and what they have to offer.
- The environment and resources are excellent. The attention given to detail in each area creates a very stimulating environment that enables children to be independent and builds children's confidence and self esteem.
- The safety and health of children is very well thought through from policy to staff practice and this includes ways to encourage children to think about and practice keeping healthy and safe.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The Pre-school's Special Educational Needs [SEN] policy and its implementation is excellent. Pre-school staff value children with SEN and are committed to helping each child reach their full potential. The SEN Co-ordinator has a thorough understanding of the 2002 Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs and supports staff in their careful observation, assessment and planning for each child. All this is done in close partnership with parents and with external support services. (standard 10)

What needs to be improved?

- Clarity of Ofsted's role in the complaints and child protection policies.

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
14	Include information about OFSTED's role in the appropriate policies with regards to complaints and the requirement to inform Ofsted about allegations of abuse taking place on the Preschool's premises

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.