



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 218135

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/07/2004
Inspector Name Permjit Tanda

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Dunston Pre- School Playgroup
Setting Address Dunston Village Hall
School Lane
Dunston
Staffordshire
ST18 9AG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Dunston Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Dunston Playgroup
Address Dunston Village Hall
School Lane
Dunston
Staffordshire
ST18 9AG

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

Dunston Pre-school Playgroup opened in 1976. It operates from the village hall in Dunston, Staffordshire. Facilities include use of the hall and one room. The group serves the local and surrounding areas.

There are currently 16 children from 2 to 5 years on roll, of these 7 are funded. Children attend a variety of sessions. Currently, there are no children attending with special needs or who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week term time only. Sessions last from 09.00 to 12.00.

Two staff work directly with the children of whom both hold a recognised Early Years Qualification. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Dunston Pre-school Playgroup provides satisfactory care for children. The group is organised with clear routines in place which help make children feel secure. Staff are vigilant about the children's safety but a formal written risk assessment is not carried out regularly on the premises. Children learn about the importance of personal hygiene and staff adopt good hygiene practices.

Children are provided with a satisfactory range of activities and play experiences to help them make progress in most areas of development. Staff provide regular opportunities for children to express their creativity through a good range of arts and crafts and children extend their physical skills well. Children enjoy imaginative play and story sessions but due to the lack of direction some children are easily distracted and do not always show good levels of concentration. Toys and equipment used are interesting and stimulating but staff do not always make effective use of what is available and seize learning opportunities and the learning intention of activities is not always clear. Staff observe the children and complete assessments of the children's development but do not use the information to help plan for the next steps in the children's learning.

Although children are beginning to respond well to behaviour boundaries and staff use effective strategies to manage their behaviour, during group time activities some children find it difficult to concentrate and sit quietly.

Staff work well with parents and information is shared on a daily basis. Most staff have an understanding of required policy and procedure but some are unclear about child protection issues. Most of the required documentation is in place but some needs to be further developed. The parents written permission for emergency medical consent is not obtained and a written procedure to be followed in the event of a lost or uncollected child is not in place. All documentation is regularly reviewed and updated.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable, as there were no actions raised at the previous inspection.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide daily opportunities for children to use a wide range of materials to express and communicate their ideas. Different techniques are experienced in producing their creative work such as free painting, hand, string, sponge and bubble painting. Children learn about texture through a range of malleable materials and play dough is regularly made available.
- Staff use a good range of props linked to the story to engage the children during structured story sessions and children learn to describe story characters and explore feelings and ideas. During free play children show an interest in books, through independently accessing the book area they learn how to use books and enjoy them.
- Parents receive good written information about the setting. Parents are encouraged to be involved in their children's learning they are invited to support the current topic through sharing their skills. There is constant communication and parents are regularly informed of their children's attainment and progress.

What needs to be improved?

- the system for planning and implementing a suitable range of activities for children to ensure they are appropriate for their stage of development and based on their individual needs and to ensure activities have a clear learning intention
- the formal written risk assessment on the premises to ensure identified actions are taken to minimise identified risks
- the staff's knowledge of child protection issues to ensure the child's safety is the first priority
- the required documentation including a written procedure to be followed in the event of a lost or uncollected child and the parents written consent for emergency medical consent. Including the further development of existing records such as the accident book to include the detail of injury in full, the register to include the actual arrival and departure time and the recording of fire drills to include time taken to evacuate the building.

- the children's behaviour during group activities and level of concentration through further developing the staff's awareness and understanding of effective ways to manage the children's behaviour, taking into account their age and stage of development.

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
6	Conduct a formal written risk assessment on the premises identifying actions to be taken to minimize identified risks.	16/07/2004
13	Develop the staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.	31/08/2004
14	Ensure that all records required for the efficient and safe management of the provision are in place and readily accessible on the premises and available for inspection at all times.	16/07/2004
3	Devise a system for planning and implementing a suitable range of activities for children with a clear learning intention. Ensure activities are appropriate for their stage of development and based on their individual needs.	31/08/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
11	Further develop staff's awareness and understanding of effective ways to manage children's behaviour, taking into account their age and stage of development.

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.