



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 139939

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/12/2003
Inspector Name Rebecca Elizabeth Khabbazi

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Mencap Playcare After School Club
Setting Address 8 Stanley Park Road
Wallington
Surrey
SM6 0EU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Sutton Mencap Charity Company 03915936 1080514

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Sutton Mencap Charity Company
Address 8 Stanley Park Road
Wallington
Surrey
SM6 0EU

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

Sutton Mencap Play Services operate from a purpose built detached property in Wallington, Surrey. The building is designed to meet the needs of children, young people and adults with disabilities. They provide specialist out of school services for children and young people with a learning disability.

Services provided include an after school club on Monday - Wednesday during term time from 3.30 - 5.45pm, a Saturday Club which runs for 37 Saturdays per year, from 10 - 3.30pm, term time only and holiday playschemes during most school holidays.

Each session is led by a co-ordinator who is supported by play leaders, play assistants and volunteers. Staffing is organised on a basis of ratios of 1:4, with many children requiring a ratio of 1:1. The majority of the staff hold relevant child care qualifications that are specific to disability and Special Educational Needs.

How good is the Day Care?

Mencap Playcare Out of School Club provides good quality care for children aged five to eight years old. The majority of staff have relevant qualifications and experience, and develop their skills through further training. There are clear roles and responsibilities and staff work together well as a team. Most of the paperwork and documentation required for the efficient running of the setting is in place, although some requires further detail or updating.

The Out of School Club offers a warm and welcoming environment that is organised to meet the needs of the children. Staff have an understanding of health and safety issues and are vigilant about ensuring children's safety on a day to day basis. They promote good hygiene practices through daily routines. Meals are freshly prepared for after school children and they are offered a varied diet which caters for any special dietary needs.

Staff plan an interesting range of activities for children that take into account their varying needs. Children have access to a wide variety of toys, equipment and play materials for both indoor and outdoor use. Staff have clear expectations for behaviour and strategies are developed on an individual basis as needed. They have very good relationships with the children, and a high level of individual support is provided.

The Out of School Club has very good relationships with parents. They mostly provide clear information for parents about the service, although some details in the brochure need to be further clarified. Parents have the opportunity to talk about their child on a regular basis, and have access to the detailed daily records that staff keep.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting agreed to: develop a number of policies and procedures; make sure that Fire Officer recommendations were met; and make sure that electrical sockets did not pose a hazard to children. Most of the policies and procedures are now in place, although some details still needs to be updated in the parents' brochure. Fire inspection certificates have been seen and fire procedures are clearly displayed. Electrical sockets have now been covered.

What is being done well?

- The setting provides a stimulating and accessible environment for children with a good range of equipment, including a sensory/soft play room
- Children are provided with a very good level of individual support including one-to-one as needed. Staff have positive relationships with the children and know them well.
- A varied range of activities are planned, including cooking and craft activities on a daily basis. Children take part in cooking foods that can be eaten as part of that day's meal
- Detailed records are kept about children's activities, behaviour and progress, which are accessible to parents. Staff have good relationships with parents, and have a flexible approach, making sure that both children's and parent's needs are taken into account in the service provided.

What needs to be improved?

- the detail included in the collection policy
- the accuracy of information in the parents' brochure
- the detail included in the attendance records

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 |
|-----|---|
| 12 | Update parents' brochure to make sure the information it contains about the complaints procedure includes Ofsted's details and it contains accurate information about the behaviour management policy |
| 14 | Update attendance records to include times of arrival and departure |
| 14 | Develop existing collection policy to include full details of procedures to be followed if a child is not collected |

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.