



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 143113

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	30/09/2003
Inspector Name	Claire Sheldrake

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Toy Box Playgroup
Setting Address	Long Sutton Primary School Long Sutton Langport Somerset TA10 9HT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Toy Box Playgroup Committee
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Toy Box Playgroup Committee
Address	Long Sutton Primary School Long Sutton Langport Somerset TA10 9HT

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

Toy Box Playgroup opened in May 1972. It operates from a porta cabin set within the Long Sutton Primary School grounds. The playgroup serves the local area and works closely with the school. Most of the children attending playgroup move on to the primary school. The group is managed by a voluntary committee.

The playgroup is registered for up to 15 children aged from two to five years. There are currently 18 children on roll. This includes seven funded three year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. All funded children have English as their first language and none have been identified as having special educational needs.

The group opens from 09:00 until 12:00 each day with a lunch club from 12:00 till 12:55. A special group is offered to the two year old children on a Wednesday afternoon from 13:30 till 15:30. The group only runs during the term time.

There are three members of staff, who all hold qualifications in childcare, and work directly with the children.

How good is the Day Care?

Toy Box Playgroup provides good quality care for children.

Set in the grounds of the Long Sutton Primary School, the playgroup provides a friendly and inviting environment for children and their parents. The playgroup is run by a small team of experienced staff, who all hold certificates in childcare. Staff are attending further training to update some of these qualifications. The playgroup has use of one playroom. This is set out with a selection of floor and table top toys. Children have the opportunity of using the school hall and playground facilities to extend physical play.

The staff are aware of health and safety issues and both the supervisor and deputy hold a current first aid certificate.

At the end of the morning session, children are able to stay for lunch. They bring a packed lunch and enjoy the opportunity to socialise and extend their language. Staff have attended training in child protection, equal opportunities and in the care of children with special needs. They ensure all children feel included and valued within the group.

Equipment and resources are available to promote all areas of learning and include a selection of toys for equal opportunities. Planned activities ensure children have the opportunity to learn and experience all stages of their development. Staff dedicate their time interacting with the children, talking, listening and extending their play.

A consistent and encouraging approach is shown by the staff when dealing with behaviour management. Praise is rewarded for good behaviour.

Good and strong relationships have been formed between staff and parents. Staff make themselves available to parents at the end of each session to discuss childrens' progress. All relevant documentation is kept confidential although some policies are in need of alteration and updating.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the playgroup agreed to ensure a fire log is kept, which was checked 01/10/2003 at inspection. To devise a medication policy, consent forms and records, all of which were checked 01/10/2003. All relevant staff forms to be completed, these have been done and sent to Bristol Regional centre. To implement an action plan for supervisor to achieve a level 3 qualification. Supervisor is working towards an NVQ level 3 at Yeovil College. To minimise risk from electrical lead to fridge in the playroom, this lead has been re directed. To ensure all accidents are signed by parents. The new accident book is complete and include parents signatures. To designate a person responsible for behaviour management and child protection. Susan Crone has taken on the role of both.

What is being done well?

- Staff are experienced and all have good qualifications in childcare. They are attending further training to update existing qualifications.
- Children are interested, involved and stimulated by the activities provided in the paygroup sessions.
- Staff demonstrate consistent responses to children. They set boundaries and encourage good behaviour at all times.
- Relationships with parents are strong. Parents are informed of their child's development and achievements on a regular basis.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation - to include updating and change of wording to the equal opportunities 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
9	update and amend wording within the policy for equal opportunities.
13	update child protection policy to include procedures for dealing with allegations made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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.