



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY292597

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/02/2005
Inspector Name Rachel Ruth Britten

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name School House Nursery
Setting Address Stoney Lane
Kelsall
Tarporley
Cheshire
CW6 0SX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Michelle McMaster

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

School House Nursery first opened in October 1995, but was re-registered in July 2004, following a change of ownership. The nursery is situated adjacent to Delamere Primary School and operates from the old school house. Children have access to three main play areas on the ground floor and a dining room located on the upper floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The nursery serves the local area.

The nursery is registered to provide care for 18 children aged from one to five years, whilst mainly caring for children from 20 months. It opens five days a week, Monday to Friday from 08.00 until 18.00, all year round. At the time of inspection there were 32 children on roll in total, with 14 in attendance on the inspection day.

There are seven members of staff regularly working with the children, of whom four have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3.

How good is the Day Care?

Overall the quality of the day care is good.

The organisation of the care is very good, with well ordered, up to date, accessible records, policies and procedures. Staff and children are grouped as one "family" group, able to access activities in all rooms. When planned activities are carried out, children are grouped according to age and stage of development. The environment is bright, warm, welcoming, well maintained and well set out, so that children can choose varied stimulating activities.

The safety and care of children is good, with very regular fire drills, useful risk assessments, safe, hygienic practices, and regular health and safety checks used by staff. Children are learning independence in self care and are enjoying healthy and nutritious snacks and meals. Accident and medication systems operate fully to protect children, staff and parents. Staff are trained in the processes for working with children with special needs and know about child protection procedures.

The quality of the activities is good. Children explore, investigate, are interested and involved in their play, while staff are responsive to children, giving them praise and encouragement. Activities are well planned and all staff evaluate and note children's progress. Children move between activities and rooms, having a varied experience

during the day and relating to all the other staff and children present. Children's individual needs are met well in this way because the small family group all know and appreciate one another's differences. Children behave well, but use of the incident recording system is unclear.

Partnership with parents is good. Staff welcome and communicate well with parents on an everyday basis and provide them with good written information about the activities and their child's progress. Parents are consulted and express great satisfaction with the friendly atmosphere, outdoor play, and structured activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The balance of activities and routines to encourage progress in all areas of learning, including self care, so that children are developing good social and independence skills as well as having good learning experiences.
- The organisation of the policies, procedures, children's records and registers, so that the provision runs efficiently and safely and is prepared to effectively deal with dispute or emergency.
- The stable, versatile, enthusiastic staff group, who work with all children and know them well, taking joint responsibility for the progress and wellbeing of each one.
- The welcoming, well set out, warm and well maintained environment, with a wide range of suitable and interesting resources for children.
- The detailed and informative activity planning and observations and assessments undertaken by all staff to contribute to children's developmental records. Also the use of photo evidence to bring to life the way children are making progress through the Stepping Stones to the Early learning Goals.
- The commitment of all staff to health and safety through first aid and food hygiene training and the daily use of health and safety checks to ensure that all areas of the nursery are clean and safe.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The use of staff, space and resources is outstanding. This is because the grouping of children as one family group, cared for by all staff and able to use all rooms of the nursery, works very well. It makes for a varied and stimulating experience for children. Each child's individual needs are well known and catered for by caring, enthusiastic staff, working together well as a team. (Standard 2).

What needs to be improved?

- the understanding and use of incident recording so that it is outlined in the behaviour policy that incidents of significant behaviour are recorded,

including incidents of physical intervention by staff.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report since registration.

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
11	Include the procedures for recording incidents in the behaviour policy so that staff and parents are aware that significant difficult behaviour by children, and physical intervention by staff, will be recorded in this way.

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.