



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305120

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/10/2004  
Inspector Name Jane Shaw

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Huntington Under 5's Playgroup  
Setting Address Village Hall  
Butterbache Road, Huntington  
Chester  
CH3 6BD

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Huntington Under Fives 1031670

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Huntington Under Fives  
Address Huntington Village Hall  
Butterbache Road, Huntington  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH3 6DB

## 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

Huntington Under Fives Playgroup has been operating as pre-school facility since 1982.

The playgroup is organised and managed by a committee of both present and past parents and carers. The committee are the registered persons, and are registered to provide sessional care for a maximum of 26 children aged from two to five years. Mr. Andrew Underhill is the nominated person acting on behalf of the committee.

The playgroup operate from Huntington Village Hall, within the village of Huntington, which is on the outskirts of Chester. The children have access to the main hall and smaller side room which is used occasionally, toilet and hand washing facilities. There is also access to a kitchen for the preparation of drinks and snacks. The group have access to outdoor play space, which includes the village hall car park, flagged area to the rear of the hall and grassed areas.

The playgroup offers sessional care Monday to Friday, from 09:15 to 12:15 term time only, however, they do operate for one week during the summer holiday period.

The group is in receipt of nursery education funding for both three and four-year-olds. There are currently 23 children on the register, all of whom are three-year-olds. There are currently no children who have been identified as having special educational needs or those for whom English is an additional language.

The children are supported by six members of staff who work directly with the children, two of whom are appropriately qualified, with a further four currently undertaking appropriate training.

As the group is in receipt of funding for nursery education they have access to a Foundation Stage teacher and other advisory staff from Sure Start Cheshire. The group is a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

### How good is the Day Care?

Huntington Under Fives Playgroup are providing satisfactory care for children.

The playgroup is well organised in terms of staff ratios and the use of available space both in and outdoors to offer the children access to a variety of experiences. Activities are supported by a range of toys, equipment and other resources,

however, the provision of resources to reflect positive images is limited. The group do not yet reach the required ratio of qualified staff, however, four members of staff are currently undertaking appropriate training. All relevant documentation is in place, however, amendments are required to the attendance register, child details forms and some policies and procedures.

Children are cared for in a safe environment, staff are vigilant about children's safety at all times and undertake regular risk assessments on a daily basis, however, these assessments are not recorded, and access to confirmation from the village hall committee regarding the gas and electrical installation checks is not available. Staff have an understanding and awareness of child protection procedures.

Playgroup staff plan activities in line with the Foundation Stage, involving the children in activities organised around particular themes. Staff ensure that all children are given equal access to all activities and opportunities, and give good support and encouragement to new children to enable them to participate. Good use is made of full group times to engage children, some adjustments to free play elements would sustain their interest. An appropriate behaviour management policy ensures children receive praise and encouragement.

An effective partnership with parents and carers is in place, they speak positively about what the group has to offer their children. Parents and carers are encouraged to be involved in the group in a variety of ways including a daily rota and as part of the committee.

### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

The registered providers were asked to address twelve actions following the last inspection, these related to staffing issues, safety, the retention of records, the formulating and amending of a number of policies and procedures.

In relation to staffing, the registered providers were asked to draw up an action plan to show how they intended to meet the required fifty percent ratio of qualified staff. There have been some staff changes since the last inspection, and the group do not yet meet the required qualification ratio, however four members of staff are currently undertaking training to National Vocational Qualification level 2.

There were actions made in relation to the obtaining of parental consent for the seeking of emergency medical treatment, for the administration of medication and the signing of entries in the accident record. All these have been addressed and are in place.

The registered providers were asked to make amendments to their behaviour management and complaints policies. Both these amendments have been addressed, these are made available for parents and carers.

The remaining actions which related to the recording of attendance of children, staff and visitors on a daily basis; the confirmation that electrical installation checks are carried out; and the formulating and amending of policies in relation to child protection, equal opportunities, special needs and uncollected children remain

outstanding and will be made recommendations in this report.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Good use is made of register/circle time to introduce children, staff and visitors to the group to enable the children to feel settled and secure.
- Full group activities are well conducted, encouraging the children's participation and involvement in interesting activities.
- Staff work well with children who are new enabling them to settle and participate through gentle encouragement and support.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the formulation of an uncollected child procedure, and the amending of the child protection, equal opportunities and special needs policies
- safety, by ensuring that checks of the gas and electric installations are done as legally required, and the recording of risk assessments carried out on the premises and equipment
- the recording of actual times of arrival and departure of staff, children and all visitors to the group on a daily basis
- the retaining of personal details of all children cared for within the group
- the extension of resources to promote positive images of culture and disability.

#### **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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure that actual times of arrival and departure of all children, staff and

	visitors is recorded on a daily basis. Formulate a policy to show the procedure to be followed in the event of a child being uncollected from the playgroup.
6	Record risk assessments carried out on the premises and equipment identifying action(s) to be taken, and confirm that checks of gas and electrical installations are conducted as required.
9	Devise an equal opportunities policy that is consistent with current legislation and guidance, ensuring that this is understood and implemented by all staff and shared with parents and carers. Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.
10	Devise and make available to parents and carers, a written statement on special needs which is consistent with current legislation and guidance. Ensure that this is understood and implemented by all staff.
13	Amend the child protection to policy to show the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.
14	Ensure that appropriate details are available for all children being cared for by the group.

## **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.*