



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 310414

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 18/01/2005
Inspector Name Ann Lee

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Early Learners Day Nursery
Setting Address 178 Hawthorne Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 3AR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mr Kenneth Alan Cosgrove

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

Early Learners Day Nursery opened in 1994. It operates from four play rooms in a converted church in Bootle, Sefton. There is also office space, kitchen, staff facilities and an outside play area.

There are currently 66 children from 3 months to 5 years on roll. This includes 15 funded 3 year olds and 2 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently no children with special needs and no children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery opens 5 days a week all year round and sessions are from 7.30am to 5.30pm.

17 staff work with the children and all of them have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from a teacher/ mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Early Learners Day Nursery provides good care for children aged three months to 5 years.

There are comprehensive policies and procedures in place to ensure that the children are cared for in a safe and healthy environment. The child protection statement requires some amendments. There are regular staff meetings, induction training and appraisals so that the staff are well supported and have a consistent approach to their work. The premises are airy, brightly decorated and welcoming.

The staff devise activity plans which are appropriate for the children's ages and stage of development. The staff are friendly and enthusiastic and there is a key worker system in place which helps them to develop close, affectionate relationships with the children. The babies and toddlers are happy and contented. The staff respond quickly to their needs and they provide plenty of physical contact and stimulating activities. Emphasis is placed on communication and language development. The staff talk to the children and provide opportunities for them to learn through play and to become confident and independent. The pre-school children follow the stepping stones to the early learning goals. They are encouraged to learn and to have fun with a wide variety of activities including different kinds of

role play, stories, songs, games and the celebration of festivals. There are, however, no opportunities for children to take part in outings and visits outside the nursery. More resources should be available to provide positive images of different cultures and disability. The cook prepares healthy, freshly cooked food for the children. Staff use praise and encouragement to help the children to be well behaved and co-operative.

There is a good partnership with parents. They are made welcome in the nursery and are provided with information about the policies and procedures and about the progress and development of their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

All of the actions from the previous inspection have been completed as follows: There is now an effective system in place to manage access to the premises and a visitors book is used. Parents sign the medication book when medicine is administered. There is a policy for illness and the behaviour management policy includes a reference to bullying. The complaints procedure includes the name, telephone number and address of Ofsted.

What is being done well?

- There are comprehensive policies and procedures in place to ensure that the children are cared for in a safe and healthy environment. The regular staff meetings, appraisals and induction training ensure that the staff have a consistent approach to their work.
- The premises are welcoming, airy and brightly decorated and there is a well maintained outside play area.
- The friendly and enthusiastic staff devise activity plans which are appropriate for the ages and stages of development of the children. The key worker system helps the staff to develop close, affectionate relationships with the children so that they are happy and contented.
- Emphasis is placed on developing communication skills and the staff talk to the children and provide opportunities for them to learn through play and become confident and independent.
- The cook prepares fresh, healthy meals, for the children, on the premises
- Staff use praise and encouragement to help the children to be well behaved and co-operative.
- There is good partnership with parents and they are provided with information about the policies and procedures and about the progress and development of their children.

What needs to be improved?

- the resources so that they include more toys, books and posters which

provide positive images of different cultures, religions, gender and disability for all ages of children

- the opportunities for children to take part in outings and visits outside the nursery
- the child protection statement so that it includes information about what action will be taken if an allegation is made against a member of 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 previous complaints to report from 1st April 2004.

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
3	consider extending the opportunities for learning and play through visits and outings
9	provide more resources which provide positive images of different cultures, religions, gender and disability for all ages of children.
13	revise the child protection statement so that it includes the procedure to be followed if an allegation is made against a member of staff

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.