



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 133711

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/05/2004
Inspector Name Gillian Little

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Paddocks Pre-School
Setting Address Paddock Road
Wallingford
Oxfordshire
OX10 9LT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Paddocks Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Paddocks Pre-School
Address The Playground Building, St John's Field
Paddock Road
Wallingford
Oxfordshire
OX10 9LT

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

Paddocks Pre-School has been operating for over 30 years. It operates from a purpose built premises adjacent to the local primary school. The pre-school serves the local area.

There are currently 46 children from two to five years on roll including funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 until 12:00 each morning and from 13:00 until 14:30 on Tuesday and Thursday. The group also operates a lunchtime club.

Eight part-time staff work with the children. One member of staff has an early years qualification to NVQ level three. Two staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a development worker from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

The pre-school provides good quality care for children. There are effective procedures in place for employing and checking staff and there are high ratios of adults to children. The staff have regular opportunities for on-going training. The premises are well maintained and provide a welcoming, safe and secure environment. There is a good range of safe and clean toys and resources. There are detailed policies in place which are carried out effectively. All the required paperwork is in place and there is a range of additional paperwork to ensure the safe and efficient management of the provision.

The staff ensure that children are safe at all times. The premises are clean and hygienic. Staff help the children to learn about health and hygiene. The pre-school takes appropriate steps when children are ill. The pre-school provides children with regular snacks and drinks which are healthy and nutritious. There are effective procedures in place to deal with child protection concerns.

The pre-school offers a wide range of stimulating activities across all learning areas. Staff know children well and are able to meet their individual needs. Staff spend their

time playing with and talking to the children which helps to develop good relationships. The pre-school promotes equal opportunities for staff and children. The staff help children to learn about people in the world around them through suitable topics, displays and resources. The pre-school promotes the welfare and development of children with special needs and staff have appropriate training. Staff use suitable methods to deal with difficult behaviour. They recognise and praise positive behaviour.

The pre-school develops good partnerships with parents who are generally happy with the care it provides.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This section is not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The pre-school offers a good range of activities including: imaginative play; construction toys; sand and water; early writing and maths activities; books; art and craft; computer; puzzles and jigsaws; outdoor play and outings. The staff plan these activities well and keep parents informed of their children's progress. The staff spend their time with the children helping them to develop and extend their skills. The staff are kind, caring and patient and help to create a settled and relaxed atmosphere. The children relate well to each other and to the adults who look after them. This all helps to promote the children's development across all learning areas.
- The pre-school premises is a cheerful and inviting environment for the children. The staff make good use of the space available and display the children's work well. The large outdoor area is set amongst trees and is adjacent to local playing fields. It has a garden and a hard surface area which are both surrounded by flowerbeds. The staff encourage the children to play outdoors and provided suitable activities.
- The staff ensure that children are safe at all times. They carry out visual checks every day and the committee ensures that written assessments are carried out regularly. The staff practise fire drills with the children every half term. The staff are well deployed around the premises and supervise the children carefully. They monitor access to the provision to keep children safe.
- The staff treat all children equally and are also able to meet their individual needs. The pre-school seeks information about children's backgrounds and individual needs when they are first registered in the group. Staff continue this process through regular communication with parents and through observations of the children. The staff ensure that children who have special needs receive appropriate care and support. They liaise with outside agencies where necessary and work closely with parents.

What needs to be improved?

- updating of some policies
- obtaining published guidance for child protection

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
14	Continue to develop policies in line with the National Standards and Guidelines.

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.