



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY286889

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 18/11/2004
Inspector Name Patricia Ann Sang

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Creche Day Care, Full Day Care
Setting Name Asquith Nursery/Creche - Kirkby
Setting Address c/o David Lloyd Leisure Club
Arbour Lane Kirkby
Liverpool
Merseyside
L33 7ET

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Asquith Court Nurseries Ltd 3077271

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Asquith Court Nurseries Ltd
Address Orbital House, Park View Road
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 3EY

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

Asquith Court Nursery and Creche within the David Lloyd Leisure Centre is run by Asquith Court Nurseries Limited. It opened in 2004 and operates from five playrooms in a purpose built section of the leisure centre. It is situated in the Kirkby area of Knowsley with good links to the M57 motorway. A maximum of 50 children may attend the nursery at any one time and a maximum of 8 children may attend the creche at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 to 18:00. The creche is open each weekday from 09:00 to 17:00, on a Saturday from 10:00 to 16:00 and Sunday from 10:00 to 14:00. Both provisions are closed for public holidays and a short closure over the Christmas period. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently 70 aged from birth to under five on roll for the nursery. Of these 13 children receive funding for nursery education. Children accessing the creche are required to pre-book places but may be looked after if places are available. Children, in the main, come from the local and wider communities within Kirkby.

The nursery employs 13 staff. Ten of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Asquith Court Nursery and Creche in the David Lloyd Leisure Centre in Kirkby provides good quality care for children. Policies and procedures that underpin the day to day running of the provision are comprehensive and provide a framework for good practice. However the staff induction does not adequately cover child protection and procedures are not shared with parents before admission to day care. Most staff hold an appropriate early years qualification with opportunities to access short courses. Furniture and equipment fully support staff and children's needs.

Much emphasis is placed on health and safety matters. A thorough risk assessment addresses all aspects of safety. Children are supervised throughout sleep periods. Children use freshly laundered flannels and sheets daily. Nappy change arrangements are safe and hygienic. Meals provided are varied and nutritious with freshly prepared fruit and vegetables included for nursery children, however fresh fruit is not provided for children in the creche.

Children in the nursery and creche have easy access to a wide selection of toys and

play equipment both indoors and outdoors. Detailed plans cover learning areas for all children. Opportunities to play imaginatively are good with home play and dressing up clothes. Water, sand and art activities are set out daily. Children make decisions about what to do with confidence. Resources that embrace diversity are in place for pre-school children but are lacking for those aged under three. Children behave well and have good relationships with each other. They take pleasure in helping with tasks and staff show regard for their self esteem. Newly admitted children are looked after with sensitivity.

There are good working relationships with parents. Newsletters, photographs, notice boards, daily discussion, individual progress files and parents evenings all help to nurture a positive partnership with parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- Policies and procedures are comprehensive and cover all aspects of provision, they are filed appropriately for staff's continued reference.
- Furniture and equipment is fun and challenging. Book and quiet areas are made comfortable with soft seated chairs and floor cushions. Rugs are colourful and designed as snails and ladybirds. Much thought is given to making toys accessible to babies and young children where they can self select for themselves. Heuristic play baskets provide babies with opportunities to investigate and explore items.
- Good hygiene practice ensures that risk of cross infection is minimised. Staff use plastic gloves and aprons for feeding and nappy change purposes. Freshly laundered sheets and flannels are provided for individual children.
- The outdoor play area is partially covered, has a safe surface and allows children to be out in the fresh air when it rains. Large play apparatus is fun and challenging, children pretend to be an engine driver in the train made in natural wood. A wooden bridge is used for climbing, balancing and walking across.
- Planning of activities is done through head office and disseminated to staff on a monthly basis, they are detailed and allow staff more time to ensure that appropriate activities are organised to meet the individual needs of children.
- Each playroom has use of an internal telephone and staff can pass on messages or discuss relevant matters while continuing to supervise and look after children.
- Children are well behaved. Staff nurture their self esteem by giving them tasks that are achievable and children's efforts are acknowledged and praised.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements for the staff induction
- the arrangements for sharing child protection procedures with parents.

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.

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
2	Review the staff induction to cover child protection adequately in the first week of employment.
13	Share child protection procedures with parents before admission to day care.

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.