



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 118175

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 17/09/2004
Inspector Name Zelda Fay Parker

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Nile Lodge Playgroup
Setting Address Nile Lodge, Queens Walk
London
W5 1TJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Sisters of Charity of St. Capitanio & St. Ger.

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Sisters of Charity of St. Capitanio & St. Ger.
Address Nile Lodge Playgroup
Nile Lodge
Queens Walk
London
W5 1TJ

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

Nile Lodge play group was registered in 1993. The playgroup operates from a purpose built cottage style building in the grounds of the Nile Lodge Convent for Capitano Sisters. It is situated in a leafy residential area of Pitshanger. The nursery caters for children who live within the local and surrounding areas.

The playgroup has the use of three rooms used for general play activities, home corner and creative play respectively. There is a secure outdoor play area.

The setting has a total of 35 children on roll. This includes six funded three-year-olds. No funded four-year-olds are currently attending. The setting aims to support children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The playgroup runs five days per week Monday to Friday from 09:15 to 11:45, term time only.

Six staff work with the children. Over half of them have early years qualifications to National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level two or three. As well as English, some staff members speak German, Hindi, Polish and Italian.

It is a registered education charity and it is accredited by the Pre School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Nile Lodge Playgroup provides good quality care for children.

Good use is made of the rooms and space is used effectively so that children have sufficient space to move around freely. Staff work well together and have a sound knowledge of childcare to apply to their work, with most staff holding relevant childcare qualifications. There is a good range of policies and procedures in place. All policies set out and available to parents to view.

Positive steps have been taken to ensure the children are safe both in and out of the playgroup. Children can play safely outside through a combination of supervision and protection from hazards. Positive steps are taken to ensure and promote the good health of children. They have a sound understanding of good hygiene practices

within the nursery environment and practices regarding administering medicines and a record is maintained of any accidents. However, parental signatures are not obtained at all times, and staff and parents signatures are not clearly defined. Staff are aware of providing healthy snacks for children. No food and hygiene certificate is held by staff preparing snacks.

Staff plan a range of activities and play opportunities which are readily accessible and help in children's all round development. Children are provided with a large and varied range of toys and play material that are accessible and are well maintained. The adults communicate well with the children and act as good role models, treating them as individuals and with respect. This results in the children displaying good behaviour and relating well with other children.

The playgroup staff have a good working relationship with parents. Parents are actively encouraged to participate in the provision and their ideas and involvement are welcomed.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group agreed to ensure adequate fire detection equipment is provided.

The group have installed appropriate smoke alarms and this has now improved fire safety precautions.

What is being done well?

- The nursery is effectively organised and well staffed. Staff are appropriately experienced and qualified. They work well together and provide a warm and welcoming environment for the children and parents.
- There are a broad range of activities and play opportunities that helps children to sustain interest and have fun. The range of activities provided offer an appropriate level of challenge to children. Organisation of space and materials allows children to make choices.
- There is a secure outdoor play area and appropriate resources and the playgroup aims to give children the opportunity to explore, experiment and practice new skills in a secure learning environment.
- There is effective partnership between parents. They are warmly welcomed and have good information about the setting. Good communication between staff and parents ensures that children's needs are met and they have a positive experience at the playgroup.

What needs to be improved?

- the maintenance and detail of written documentation of accidents, to include clear staff and parental signatures.

- the staff's knowledge of Environmental Health requirements in the preparation and handling of food.

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
7	Keep an up to date written record, signed by parents, of accidents and ensure that staff and parents signatures are clearly defined.
7	Ensure that anyone responsible for the preparation and handling of food is aware of, and complies with, Environmental Health requirements.

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.