



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 220010

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	24/11/2003
Inspector Name	Sarah Measures

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	Crescent After School Club
Setting Address	Crescent Community Centre Laburnham Crescent Kettering Northants NN16 9PH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Crescents After School Club 1038234
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Crescents After School Club
Address	Crescents Community Centre Laburnum Crescent Kettering Northamptonshire NN16 9PH

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

Crescent After School Club opened in 1991. It operates from a community centre within the market town of Kettering. Crescent After School Club serves the local area and collects children from four local schools.

There are currently 48 children on the register and children attend a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children with special needs.

The group opens daily during term time all year round. Sessions are from 15:15 until 18:00. Four full time and two part time staff work with the children. Five are currently on training programmes. The setting receives support from the local Childrens Information Service.

How good is the Day Care?

Crescent After School Club provides satisfactory care for children. The premises are warm and welcoming and children are happy and relaxed in their surroundings. The club is generally well organised and good staff ratios are provided, however suitable arrangements are not in place to protect children from all persons who have not completed vetting procedures. Records are generally in good order and confidentially stored. The club has a variety of toys, equipment and resources that are suitable for children of different ages.

Staff are well deployed to support children and to maintain their safety. The arrival and departure of children is effectively managed, however there is no formal, written system of risk assessment that can be regularly reviewed and the child protection policy lacks some detail. The club is currently building up a selection of resources that promote equality of opportunity and takes care to ensure that children with special needs are valued and included.

A variety of activities are available for children, including opportunities for outdoor play. There is a behaviour management policy in place and children are generally well behaved and any difficulties dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

Staff are friendly and approachable and take care to inform parents of significant incidents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the club agreed to two actions which have been satisfactorily addressed and enhance children's care and welfare. The staff agreed to familiarise themselves with local child protection committee procedures and develop a written statement based upon these procedures. These actions have been completed, although the child protection policy requires further detail. The club also agreed to prepare an action plan showing how staff qualifications would meet requirements. Five staff members started their National Vocational Qualification in Play work in September 2002.

What is being done well?

- The club is well organised and five staff members are currently working towards a level 3 qualification in play work which provides a well qualified and experienced team working directly with the children.
- The club has a variety of toys and resources that are prepared in advance which helps to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Activities provide choice to children of all ages.
- Staff act as good role models and there are clear boundaries. As a result the behaviour of the children is well managed, particularly in large group situations.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for protecting children from persons who are not vetted
- the child protection policy to include procedures in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff
- the system of risk assessment to ensure that this can be reviewed regularly.

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
1	Ensure that suitable arrangements are in place to protect children from persons who are not vetted.
6	Conduct a risk assessment of the premises that is reviewed if there is significant change.
13	Ensure that the child protection procedure includes procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member/volunteer.

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.