



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 128487

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 04/03/2005
Inspector Name Theresa May

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name The Drive Playgroup
Setting Address The Drive
Ilford
Essex
IG1 3PP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Drive Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Drive Playgroup
Address The Drive
Ilford
Essex
IG1 3PP

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

The Drive pre-school is managed by a voluntary management committee. It opened in 1974. It operates from a large main hall with the use of two other rooms and a fully enclosed garden.

The setting is located in a residential street in Ilford in the London Borough of Redbridge. A maximum of 35 may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 09:15 to 12:00 and then again at 12:30 to 15:15 in term times only.

There are currently 47 children from 2 to under 5 years old on roll. Of these 23 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local community and attend a variety of sessions. The nursery is currently supporting 3 children with special educational needs but none where English is an additional language.

The nursery employs 6 caring staff. The manager is supernumerary. Over 50% of staff hold Early Years Qualifications.

The setting receives support from the Early Years Developmental Partnership, the Pre-school learning alliance and is participating with the Quilt quality assurance scheme.

How good is the Day Care?

The quality and organisation of the day care is satisfactory. The manager is suitably qualified, however the deputy does not hold a level three qualification. Over half the staff have an early years qualification. Ofsted have not been informed of all of members of the committee. The children are able to move freely and comfortably around the activities giving them choice and freedom. There is a wide range of toys and equipment which is selected and made accessible. All the required documentation in the operational plan has been effectively reviewed and available.

The premises are warm and welcoming. They are secure and there is effective systems for the arrival and collection of the children. The staff have good hygiene routines with the children. Over half the staff have a first aid certificate. All children are treated with equal regard and there are systems in place to support and integrate children with special needs. The staff are aware of child protection issues

and understand how to progress concerns.

The staff know the children well. They plan a range of activities for the children through their observations, however there are missed opportunities to extend children's learning in everyday situations. The staff praise and encourage the children during their play. The children behave well and are happy to share and co-operate with each other.

The pre-school work in partnership with the parents. They are welcomed in to the nursery, offered a settling in period and information is obtained from the parents regarding the care of the children. This is recorded and parents wishes are respected. Parents are informed about their children on a daily basis and there is a parents hand book for them to refer too, however they only receive written information about the children attainment when they leave.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the pre-school has provided a water cooler so the children are able to help themselves to a drink when they want.

The operational plan has been updated with a written complaints procedure which is shared with the parent's, it includes Ofsted's name and address for the parents to contact the regulator if needs be. There is also a no smoking policy to promote the health and hygiene of the pre-school. The child protection policy now includes to inform Ofsted if any allegations are made against staff.

A range of activities and play opportunities are now planned for children according to their age and development. They are grouped appropriately into smaller groups and the smaller rooms are used for quieter times help children concentrate.

Ofsted have been informed of the majority of the committee member although there are still some still outstanding. Also the pre-school's action plan has been unable to achieve a deputy at a level three.

What is being done well?

- the operational plan has been reviewed and agreed by all the staff to ensure that the policies and procedures are used effectively.
- The space available in the main hall is planned effectively so there are areas for rest and active play. The children have room to move comfortably and are able to access the activities. Smaller rooms are also used for groups of children to do planned activities.
- There are a wide range of toys and equipment which is selected and rotated according to the children's needs. It is made accessible for the children so they are able to make choices and decisions in their play.

What needs to be improved?

- informing Ofsted of committee and staff changes
- the qualification for a deputy
- the monitoring and evaluating systems for staff
- the information given to parents about their children's development.

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.)

Concerns were raised on the 25/08/2004. The concern was regarding an allegation about a member of staff.

The concerns relate to the National standards 1, 2, 11, 13 and 14 in the area of suitability, staffing, behaviour management, child protection and informing Ofsted of significant events.

An Ofsted inspector made a unannounced visit on the 01/10/2004.

Evidence was found that the National standards had been breached. The nominated person agreed actions to ensure the notification to Ofsted of any changes in members of staff and committee members. The notification to Ofsted of any allegations of abuse by a member of staff.

The provider remains qualified for registration.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
1	Inform Ofsted of committee members and staff changes.	04/03/2005
2	Appoint a deputy manager that has the appropriate	04/03/2005

	qualifications to take full charge in the absence of the manager.	
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The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
2	Develop monitoring and evaluating systems for staff.
12	Provide opportunities for parents to receive regular information on their children's progress

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.