



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 221740

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/07/2003
Inspector Name Veronica Sharpe

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Barton Playgroup
Setting Address BARTON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL LANE, BARTON
CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
CB3 7BD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Barton Playgroup Committee

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Barton Playgroup Committee
Address Barton Primary School
School Lane, Barton
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
CB3 7BD

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

Barton Playgroup started in the 1970s and currently operates from a building owned by the group sited in the grounds of Barton Primary School. The group has full use of the school grounds. The playgroup is a registered charity managed by a committee of parents and serves the local rural area.

The playgroup is registered to care for twenty children aged between two and five years. There are currently 13 children on roll, seven of whom are funded three and four year olds. There are no children attending with identified special needs. Two children have English as an additional language. The group admits a maximum of 12 children per session and has a policy of accepting children when they are two years six months old.

The playgroup is open Monday - Friday 9.15am - 12pm term times only. When there is sufficient demand an extra afternoon session for rising fives takes place in the summer term.

Three members of staff work with the children, two of whom have early years qualifications.

The group is a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance (PSLA).

How good is the Day Care?

Barton Playgroup provides satisfactory care for children.

The stable and experienced staff team provide a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities that contribute to children's development. They know the children well and enjoy a warm and friendly relationship with them. Children and staff use resources creatively to provide a rich and entertaining environment. However, activities provided do not always meet the needs of younger and less able children.

Children's safety is generally satisfactory, staff are vigilant and careful to ensure children are kept safe both indoors and out. However, children are not always shown how to move items such as chairs around safely and this could be a hazard to themselves or others. There is no effective procedure in place for recording or administering medication.

Children are encouraged to behave well by example, they say "sorry" and are

friendly and co-operative. They help each other and are sensitive to each other's needs and feelings. There is a good partnership with parents and carers; parents are welcomed into the group and exchange information about their children daily, however the complaints procedure is not shared fully with parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group was asked to ensure that a wash basin with hot and cold water is available to the children, to set out an action plan detailing how the group intends to meet staff qualification criteria and to ensure children learn about personal hygiene.

The group has been unable to provide a wash basin with hot and cold water, however, children use anti-bacterial soap and paper towels to wash their hands and running water from a jug to rinse. This procedure will remain in place until new premises are completed. Children are encouraged and helped to learn about personal hygiene, they wash their hands before and after meals and after toileting and messy play.

The group now meets the qualification criteria as two of the three members of staff now hold early years qualifications.

What is being done well?

- High adult to child ratios and a stable and experienced staff team provide a secure environment where children's individual developmental needs are met (Standard 2).
- Staff provide a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities that contribute to children's development. They know the children well and enjoy a warm and friendly relationship with them (Standard 3).
- Staff make good use of available space ensuring children have good opportunities for active and imaginative play experiences (Standard 4).
- Children and staff use resources, for example, a very large cardboard box, creatively to provide a rich and entertaining environment (Standard 5).
- Children are encouraged to behave well by example, they say "sorry" and are friendly and co-operative. They help each other and are sensitive to each other's needs and feelings (Standard 11).
- There is a good partnership with parents and carers; parents are welcomed into the group and exchange information about their children daily (Standard 12)

What needs to be improved?

- documentation, to obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children, and to keep a record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children (Standards 7 & 14)

- provision of activities to ensure children's individual needs are taken into account (Standard 9)
- the complaints procedure, to make sure parents are fully informed(Standards 12 & 14).

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 |
|-----|---|
| 14 | keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children. |
| 14 | make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint and include the regulator's contact details. |
| 9 | provide activities to ensure that younger and less able children can be fully included. |
| 14 | develop an effective procedure for recording and administering medication to children. |

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.