



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY284043

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	12/01/2005
Inspector Name	Suman Willis

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Sitara Toto Montessori
Setting Address	Scout Activity Centre Well End Road Well End, Borehamwood Herts WD6 5PR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Shital Shah
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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

Sitara Toto Montessori registered as a day care in May 2004. The nursery has access to one large hall situated on the site of Well End Activity Centre. The hall is well utilised by other groups. The nursery children will have access to one large hall. The building is set within a large wooded area which is used for walks and rambles. The group also has access to an enclosed outdoor play area adjacent to the building. The site is within easy access of Borehamwood, Shenley and close to A1(M). The group has a wide catchment area.

There are currently five children on the register aged between two and four years on roll. This includes one funded four year old and one funded three year old. The setting would support children with special educational needs and children who speak English as a second language.

The group opens from 09:15 to 15:15 during term time and children can either attend for a variety of sessions or all day.

The group applies the Montessori method of teaching and the leader is a qualified teacher and has a Diploma in Montessori teaching. The two other members of staff are Montessori qualified.

How good is the Day Care?

Sitara Toto Montessori provides satisfactory care for children. All staff have made very good progress since opening last May in developing the nursery. They work well as a team and are very supportive of each other. They value training and attend courses to develop their skills in childcare. They are appropriately deployed to take lead from each other to ensure that the nursery is run smoothly. The nursery is organised effectively to allow children to access resources and participate in all activities with ease. Most documents are in place.

Staff use their observational skills and training to monitor children's health and safety at all times and a regular risk assessment generally ensures that potential dangers are addressed. Children are taught about hygiene through their daily routine and activities carried out. Healthy eating is promoted at snack time when fresh organic fruit and vegetables are left out together with drinks for children to help themselves.

Children are engaged in a wide range of interesting and age appropriate activities.

These are well planned to cover all areas of learning. Children are given ample opportunities to explore and extend their learning through their environment and staff are always nearby to offer assistance.

Staff have developed very good relationships with children and parents. They meet individual needs by seeking information from parents and offering lots of one to one attention. Staff promote good behaviour by providing a calm atmosphere where children learn to value the feelings of others.

Parents are kept fully informed of their children's development through informal information sharing and written records. Regular newsletters keep them informed of any changes within the provision.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A

What is being done well?

- All staff are kept fully informed and are involved in the organisation of the nursery. They have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities and are very supportive of each other at all times. A communication book is used amongst them to share any information or outstanding tasks. They are well deployed to monitor children using pocket notebooks to record their observations.
- Children are involved in a wide range of interesting activities, some are planned but mostly children choose their own activities from the excellent range available to them on a daily basis. Activities are well planned and followed through. For example children were taken out for walks in the fields to pick blackberries and then made a blackberry crumble.
- Children are given ample opportunities to be independent through play and at snack time. Sliced fresh organic fruit and vegetables are left out on a table with drinks in jugs for children to help themselves. Children with cows milk allergy are offered rice milk.
- Staff gather information about each child this is shared amongst them to ensure that they are all fully aware of and able to meet each child's individual needs. They provide a calm but busy atmosphere and children are taught about valuing each other's feelings. For example one child is enjoying having a story read to him when another child asks to join in, he is gently told to ask the other child.
- Staff continue to develop their relationship with parents and have developed a parents questionnaire which is well utilised to regularly review their practice. Positive responses to the Ofsted parents questionnaire have been received.

What needs to be improved?

- register
- garden gate
- procedure for lost/uncollected child

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.)

Since their registration Ofsted have not received any complaints about this provider.

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
14	must have a procedure to be followed if a parent fails to collect a child or a child is lost	25/01/2005

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	ensure an accurate record of attendance is maintained

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.