

Office for Standards in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 254094

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/05/2003 Inspector Name Rosalie Mary Turner

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	Hainford Pre-School Learning Alliance
Setting Address	Hainford Village Hall
-	NORWICH
	Norfolk
	NR10 3LX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of U/A

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

Hainford Pre-school Learning Alliance has been open for many years. It operates from a large room in the village hall situated in the rural village of Hainford. The pre-school serves the local area. The group is registered to accept 26 children aged between two and under five years. There are currently 18 children from two to four years on roll. This includes funded three and four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group is able to cater for children who have special needs and will support children who speak English as an additional language. The group opens up to five days a week during school term times. Current sessions are from 09:30 until 12:00 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On Tuesday and Thursday mornings older children join the reception class at the local first school. Up to four part time staff work with the children. Two have early years qualifications and one member of staff is currently on a training programme. The supervisor also works with the children who join the reception class. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

The pre-school provides good quality care for children aged two and under five years. Staff are continuing to train which ensures they have up to date knowledge and skills which are practised in the setting. They group children well according to the activity they are involved in, helping children to be secure and confident with the adults. Children are mostly well occupied although older children are sometimes boisterous and not involved in meaningful play. Staff are aware of children's safety and the comprehensive risk assessment minimises risks to children both inside, outside and on outings. Hygiene practices are good and staff protect the children from the spread of infection by teaching them about the importance of hand washing. Staff interaction with children is good. They sit with the children and make good use of praise to encourage play. Children are able to choose freely from the wide range of toys and activities available during free play. However, more choices should be available for children who do not wish to play outside. The pre-school has built up a strong partnership with parents. They know what is going on through a regular newsletter which informs them of themes, policies and events. All relevant documentation is in place, although practices to be followed if children are lost are verbally agreed but not yet incorporated in the policies.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the pre-school agreed to ensure all persons submit vetting forms, update all documentation to reflect a change in the regulatory body and develop a system to share children's progress with parents. All relevant persons have been vetted and parents are reassured that they are suitable to have unsupervised access to the children. Staff now share details of each child's progress with parents and carers when they help on rota. This not only involves parents with their child's learning but also helps them to understand the purpose of the activities undertaken. All documentation and policies have been updated to refer to Ofsted as the regulatory body.

What is being done well?

the environment is warm and welcoming to children. Staff display children's work and posters to brighten the hall. Their warm welcome, the child sized furniture and bright patterned carpeting helps children to settle (Standard 4) the staff make good use of questions to encourage children to think and develop their mathematical and language skills. They ask children to count and compare or match colours, shape and size (Standard 3) the organisation of snack time is very good. Children are developing independence as they pour their own drinks and choose from a variety of healthy snacks. Staff are helping the children to increase their social skills as they sit together and chat (Standard 8) the staff are calm and consistent in their approach to children. They set good examples to children and manage their behaviour sensitively to help them to learn right from wrong (Standard 11) the staff have very good relationships with parents. They involve them in their children's learning and share information between home and pre-school. The two way flow of information enables staff to give appropriate care to each child (Standard 12)

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The staff planning is especially effective. Long term plans detail a broad and balanced range of experiences for children to develop their skills and knowledge. Staff repeat activities to give children the opportunity to consolidate their learning. Children are confident at applying their knowledge in a variety of situations. Flexible daily plans take into account children's individual patterns of attendance. Staff rotate toys and equipment to ensure each child experiences a varied programme (Standard 3)

What needs to be improved?

the range of activities available throughout the session - to ensure there is an alternative for children not wishing to play outside (Standard 3) staff deployment - to ensure all children are involved in meaningful play (Standard 6)

Outcome of the inspection

Good

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date

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

Std	Recommendation
	provide activities to give more choices to children not wishing to play outside
6	ensure staff are deployed effectively; this refers to redirecting children to meaningful play if they become boisterous

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.