



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 400211

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 25/07/2003
Inspector Name Ingrid Szczerban

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Fairfax Community Centre
Setting Address Fairfax Avenue
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG2 7RU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Harrogate Borough Council

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Harrogate Borough Council
Address Brandreth House
St. Lukes Avenue
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG1 2AA

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

Fairfax Community Centre Playscheme opened in August 1994 and is run by Harrogate Borough Council. It mainly serves the local community. The scheme is open-access, however, systems are in place to ensure children are collected by authorised persons.

It operates in a large main hall, reception hall/ lounge area, and arts and crafts room of a single storey community centre. There is an outside play area.

The playscheme is managed by a co-ordinator, who has a team of staff working in the community centre.

There are children on roll aged 5 to 11 years. The scheme opens during school holidays, Monday to Friday from 10:00hrs to 15:00hrs.

Five staff work with the children. Two senior staff have qualifications proposed as relevant

qualifications. Other staff have received the Harrogate Borough Council training.

How good is the Day Care?

Fairfax Community Centre Playscheme provides good care for children.

The required documentation is well ordered, accurate and mostly up to date. The manager delegates effectively. The space available for activities is used appropriately, both indoors and outdoors.

Staff have sound awareness of safety issues both inside and outside. Generally adequate hygiene routines are followed. The compulsory training given by Harrogate Borough Council, ensures that staff have a consistent approach to their work. Staff have satisfactory knowledge of the policies and procedures. Toys and equipment are sufficient, age appropriate and reflect equality of opportunity. Good account is taken of children with special needs and inclusive play days are provided, additional staff are used during these sessions.

The quality of care for children is good. The activities are well-planned, and children

are interested and occupied. Children's opinions on the provision are sought and help to inform planning. Staff interact well with children, listening to them, and responding sensitively to all their needs. Older children are encouraged to help the younger ones. Appropriate strategies are used for managing children's behaviour and children are well-behaved.

Relationships with parents are positive. Staff seek all necessary information from parents prior to admission. Parents are given comprehensive information about the playscheme's activities and general procedures.

What has improved since the last inspection?

It was agreed at the last inspection that an action plan would be submitted outlining how the manager and deputy will achieve a level 3 qualification in playwork, and an action plan would be provided to ensure an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity.

The manager is currently working towards NVQ level3 in playwork. There are negotiations in progress between the provider and the Qualifications Curriculum Authority, (QCA) to determine the levels of qualifications of all staff, including the deputy.

There are now resources available to promote equality of opportunity.

What is being done well?

- Activities for the children are well-planned. There is sufficient flexibility for children to choose their own games and make decisions. Children's opinions of activities are sought and used to inform future planning. (Standard 3)
- Staff interact well with children. Children who are withdrawn are noticed and responded to appropriately. (Standard 3)
- Provision to promote equality of opportunity is appropriate; inclusive days for special needs children are offered. (Standard 10)
- There is a comprehensive policy for behaviour management, understood and implemented by staff Staff discuss issues with the children and draw up a general written agreement which is displayed on the wall. (Standard 11)
- The staff have positive relationships with parents, a pack of information about the playscheme is given to them. Daily verbal feedback is given to parents who are invited to make comments about the provision. (Standard 12)
- Documentation is well-ordered. (Standard 14)

What needs to be improved?

- The procedures for recording daily arrival times of staff (Standard 2)
- The environment, including the arrangements for cleaning, in the female toilets. (Standard 7)

- The arrangements for children to help themselves to drinks of water.
(Standard 8)

Outcome of the inspection

Good

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
2	ensure the record of the arrival times of staff is completed daily, before they begin work.
4	review the environment ,including the arrangements for cleaning, in the female toilets.
8	make arrangements for children to be able to help themselves to drinks of water.

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.