



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127388

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 11/02/2004
Inspector Name Freeda Wildon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Monkton Under 5's Playgroup
Setting Address Monkton Men's Institute
122 Monkton Street, Monkton
Ramsgate
Kent
CT12 4JQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Monkton Under 5's Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Monkton Under 5's Playgroup
Address 122 Monkton Street
Monkton
Ramsgate
Kent
CT12 4JQ

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

Monkton Under Fives Playgroup opened in 1980. It operates from the village hall in Monkton, near Ramsgate, Kent. The playgroup has access to a hall toilet and an outside area. The playgroup serves the local area and surrounding villages.

There are currently 16 children on roll. This includes seven funded four-year-old children and no funded three-year-old children.

Children attend a variety of sessions each week. The playgroup have experience caring for children with special needs and children speaking English as an additional language.

The playgroup opens five days a week, term time only. Sessions last from 09.00 to 12.00 Monday to Friday.

Three staff work with the children, two of whom hold an early years qualification and have attended short courses. The group receives support from a Pre-school Learning Alliance development worker and a teacher from the Early Years Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Monkton Under Fives Playgroup provides good care overall for children.

Most of the staff are qualified and experienced, and work well as a team supported by committee volunteers. Staff generally have a good knowledge and understanding of the National Standards. However, some of their knowledge of child protection is insecure. Space, staff and resources are well organised to meet the children's needs effectively. The environment is warm and welcoming to children and parents. Clear policies, procedures and records underpin the day-to-day running of the nursery.

Premises are safe and clean, there are formal procedures to identify and eliminate hazards. Health and hygiene procedures ensure good practice. Snack times are relaxed social occasions, and staff promote children's independence.

Children are happy to enter the playgroup and approach adults confidently. The quality of staff: child interaction is especially good, with adults working closely with

the children, supporting and extending their play and learning. Children are happy and stimulated, with planned, exciting activities covering all areas of development. The planning is based on the Stepping Stones, however they have not as yet developed a key worker system. There are opportunities for spontaneous role-play. The group has an appropriate equal opportunities policy and activities, which support children's knowledge of other culture and tradition. Staff manage behaviour positively and consistently, resulting in good behaviour and secure, confident children.

Staff work in partnership with parents, and parents are very happy with the standard of care and exchange of information about their children's development and activities. However they have not as yet obtained prior written permission from parents for medical emergency treatment or advice.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The last inspection was a transitional inspection, this section is not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Most of the staff are qualified and experienced, and work well as a team supported by committee volunteers.
- Space, staff and resources are well organised to meet the children's needs effectively. The environment is warm and welcoming to children and parents.
- Premises are safe and clean, there are formal procedures to identify and eliminate hazards.
- Health and hygiene procedures ensure good practice. Snack times are relaxed social occasions, and staff promote children's independence.
- The quality of staff: child interaction is especially good, with adults working closely with the children, supporting and extending their play and learning.
- Children are happy and stimulated, with planned, exciting activities covering all areas of development.
- Staff manage behaviour positively and consistently, resulting in good behaviour and secure, confident children.
- Staff work in partnership with parents, and parents are very happy with the standard of care and exchange of information about their children's development and activities.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Not applicable.

What needs to be improved?

- written permission from parents for medical emergencies and advice
- key worker system

- staff knowledge of child protection procedures.

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
7	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.
2	Develop implement a key worker system.
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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.