



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY219003

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	12/07/2004
Inspector Name	Christine Pettitt

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Pumpkin Pre School
Setting Address	St Lawrence Church Hall High Street Abbots Langley Hertfordshire WD5 0AS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Miss Zena Anne Clough
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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

Pumpkins Pre-school has been established for 2 years. It takes place in the hall of St Lawrence church in the village of Abbots Langley. When in operation the group has sole use of the main hall, small back room, entrance area, cloakrooms and the kitchen. The group does not have access to an outside play area.

The pre-school is registered for 24 children aged between 2 years 9 months to 5 years old.

The group offers four sessions a week Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 09.15am to 12.15pm. Lunchtime care is offered. The pre-school is open term time only.

The proprietor and one of the staff team have completed the Diploma in Pre-school Practice. The leader is NNEB qualified. One member of staff is intending to do NVQ level 2 and another level 3.

There are children currently attending who receive funding.

How good is the Day Care?

The pre school provides satisfactory care for children.

A stimulating, welcoming, and caring environment is provided. The premises are hygienic, and mainly safe. Regular risk assessments are carried out. Appropriate hygiene practice is promoted with the children during the daily routine.

A varied programme of activities takes place. Plans for activities are made using themes and the stepping stones. The resources are suitable and are easily accessible, although there are limited multi cultural resources. There is an inventory of play equipment which could be enhanced. Staff promote the learning experience for the children well through organised activities and informally in free play. They are working towards recording observations relating to the Foundation Stage in each area of learning. The staff show they value the children by their interest and sensitive approach. They have a positive attitude towards behaviour management and are welcoming to children with special needs.

Partnerships with parents is viewed as important. Parents of new children receive a brochure, a parent pack and attend an induction morning. Ongoing information is

provided through newsletters, and notice boards. Parents are invited to special events. A notebook containing general comments, a short report and a file containing their child's work is given to parents when the children leave. Currently there is no formal event to discuss children's development.

Most of the required documentation is in place. This is stored securely. New staff receive an information booklet and informal induction. There is no formal written procedure for induction. The staff have a commitment to ongoing training and have attended courses regarding most standards, apart from equal opportunities. The required policies are available and documentation is organised.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the first inspection since registration.

What is being done well?

- The activities on offer during the session provided opportunity for children to choose their preferred activity, to extend maths skills, to enjoy creative and imaginative activities. The post office and the role play

What needs to be improved?

- staff attendance records, induction programme
- equipment inventory and multi cultural resources
- safety procedures for the boiler
- knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities
- lost child policy.

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
2	Review and devise a formal induction programme / checklist and review staff attendance records to clarify hours worked.
5	Review and extend cultural resources and extend inventory.
6	Ensure boiler area in small room is made safe.
9	Improve the staff's knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities.
14	Add lost child policy to non collection of child policy.

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.