



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY244233

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 27/09/2004
Inspector Name Diana Pidgeon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Springfield Pre-school
Setting Address St John's Ambulance Building
Grasmere Street
Sandiacre
Derbyshire
NG10 5BD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Springfield Pre-school 1041085

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Springfield Pre-school
Address St John's Ambulance Building
Grasmere Street
Sandiacre
Derbyshire
NG10 5BD

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

Springfield Pre-school is committee run and has been registered at the St John's Ambulance Building, in Sandiacre, since 2002. It previously ran from a nearby venue for over 30 years. The group has access to the main hall and adjacent outdoor area. There is a public car park next to the building. Children attend from the local and surrounding area.

The pre-school opens Monday to Friday 09:15 to 11:45 and Thursday 12:45 to 14:45. The afternoon session is aimed at children preparing to move on to school. There are currently 34 children from 2 to 4 years on roll. This includes 8 funded 3-year-olds and 4 funded 4-year-olds. The setting supports children with special educational needs or who speak English as an additional language. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

There are four staff who work with the children. Of these two hold recognised childcare qualifications and the other two are attending training. The pre-school is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance and receives support from Derbyshire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Springfield Pre- School provides good quality care for children. The staff work well together as a team, under the leadership of the supervisor and with the support of the management committee. The pre-school is well-organised and this helps new children settle, so that they feel secure and happy. The environment is warm, welcoming and stimulating for parents and children. The good use of space enables children to play comfortably and move around safely. Good quality toys and books, including those that reflect diversity and meet the varying needs of children, are used effectively. Most documentation is in place and maintained to a good standard.

Staff demonstrate a good awareness of safety issues for children both in and out of the pre-school. Fire evacuation practices have been carried out but the frequency of these has not met the documented procedures. Staff promote children's health effectively by encouraging their awareness of personal hygiene through topics and the daily routine. Good emphasis is placed on healthy eating and snack time is a well-organised, social occasion. Staff demonstrate an understanding of the issues surrounding child protection although the statement lacks current detail.

Staff plan and provide a wide range of stimulating activities which keep the children purposefully engaged throughout the session. There is a suitable balance of free-play and adult-led activities. Staff work closely with the children, helping them to understand the expectations of the pre-school and to promote their learning. Children behave well and are learning to share and co-operate with one another. There are good support systems for children who have special needs.

Detailed information is provided for parents to ensure they are fully informed about the policies and routines of the pre-school and their child's progress. There are many ways in which they can actively contribute to the life of the pre-school.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The pre-school is effectively organised with good use made of staff, space and resources so that children are well cared for. The operational plan is implemented by all staff and works well in practice. Arrangements for grouping and supporting children ensures they feel secure and develop self-confidence.
- Effective use of the extensive range of toys and activities ensures children are keen to participate and eager to learn. Children enjoy re-telling familiar stories using the props from the story sack, dressing up in a variety of costumes and exploring with paint. Thoughtful organisation of the environment allows children to self-select which promotes their independence.
- Snack time is an integral part of the session. It is well-organised and provides a relaxed social occasion where lots of learning takes place. Children are able to try new tastes, such as naan bread or kiwi fruit, to make choices and engage in conversations.
- Staff promote all areas of learning through a play environment, adapting and extending activities to meet children's individual needs. They form good relationships with the children and through sensitive guidance help children to share, concentrate and develop confidence.
- Children's good health is effectively promoted through staff adhering to the clear procedures for the pre-school. They also help children learn about personal hygiene such as washing hands and wiping their noses. Useful information regarding the exclusion times for various childhood diseases is shared with parents and they are well-informed of any minor accidents to their child.

What needs to be improved?

- the frequency of fire evacuation practices, to meet the pre-school's stated

procedures

- the written procedures for child protection.

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
6	Ensure the health and safety procedures are reflected in practice, regarding the frequency of fire evacuation drills
13	Ensure that the child protection procedure for the pre-school complies with the latest government guidance

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.