

Office for Standards in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253514

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	20/05/2004
Inspector Name	Hazel Taylor

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Qwackers Pre-school
Setting Address	The School Premises Hanby Lane Alford Lincs LN13 9BN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

The Committee of Qwackers Pre-school

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name

Address

Qwackers Pre-school Hanby Lane

Alford Lincolnshire LN13 9BN

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

Qwackers Pre-school opened in 1960. It has been based in a portacabin within the grounds of the John Spendluffe Secondary School, near the centre of the town, for the past 14 years and is committee run. There is one main room, which is partitioned into two, and one smaller room, available for activities. There is direct access to a fully enclosed and secure outdoor play area which is partly grassed. The pre-school serves the local area and the surrounding villages.

There are currently 83 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 35 funded three year olds and 23 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The pre-school currently supports three children with special needs and two who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 until 11:30 and 12:45 until 15:15.

Eleven part time staff work with the children. Half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 3. Two staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Qwackers Pre-school provides good care for children aged two to under five years.

Good use of space and resources ensure children are well cared for and supported. The premises are warm and welcoming, and the children are happy and settled, and have good relationships with the staff. Effective systems are in place to keep children safe. An appropriate range of policies, procedures and written records are in place and are generally effective, constitute the operational plan and are currently under review.

The staff work well together to ensure that all children can easily access a good range of resources and suitable activities which provide sufficient challenge and which follow the children's interests.

Staff give high priority to ensuring children's safety both within the provision and when taking them on outings. Staff consistently apply procedures outlined in health and safety policies and good hygiene practices are maintained. Staff know the

children well and ensure that their individual needs are met.

The group actively promote equality of opportunity, they promote and respect diversity by providing good toys and resources, promoting language, sharing cultural information, encouraging self-esteem in the children. The pre-school also has a commitment to working with parents and other agencies and staff are proactive in ensuring that activities are adapted for children with special needs.

Staff act as positive role models and give clear guidelines for children's behaviour, as a result the children are well behaved

There is a good partnership with parents and carers. Parents appreciate the warm welcome and friendly interaction of the staff. They are provided with helpful information about the pre-school, the curriculum and can discuss their child's progress on a regular basis.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff work well as a team to provide an interesting learning environment. They develop effective relationships with the children and sensitively engage children during practical activities. Consequently, children are well supported, they feel secure and they make progress in all areas of their development.
- Effective systems are in place to minimise hazards and promote children's safety both inside and outdoors.
- The pre-school actively promotes equality of opportunity through their positive attitudes and practices. All children are included and are treated with equal concern.
- Staff liaise with parents and relevant agencies to promote the welfare and development of children with special needs.
- Staff have developed a good partnership with parents due to their friendly and supportive approach. Parents are given helpful information about the provision, the curriculum and the children's progress. This has a positive impact on the care and well being of the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the child protection policy to include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.
- the review of policies and further development of the written operational plan so that it can be shared by all, facilitate the understanding of how the setting runs, how the resources are used to meet the needs of the children, inform self-evaluation and the identification of areas for development.

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 recomm	nendations
by the time of the next inspection	

Std	Recommendation
	Review documentation and further develop the written operational plan so that it can be shared by all, facilitate the understanding of how the setting runs, how the resources are used to meet the needs of the children, inform self-evaluation and the identification of areas for development.
	Revise the child protection policy to include the procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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.