

Office for Standards in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY269963

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	15/02/2005
Inspector Name	Valerie Block

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Toddler Town Nursery Ltd
Setting Address	12a New South Watt Street Workington Cumbria CA14 2RZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

Mrs Catherine Mary Williams

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

Toddler Town Nursery is run by Mrs. Catherine Williams. It opened in January 2004 and operates from three playrooms in a purpose-designed building. It is situated in the centre of Workington, Cumbria. A maximum of 26 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07:30 to 18:00 for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 50 children aged from 3 months to 4 years on roll. Of these 6 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from mainly from the local area. The nursery currently supports a number of children with special educational needs.

The nursery employs seven staff. There are six staff members, including the manager, who hold appropriate early years qualifications. One staff member is working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Toddler Town Nursery provides a satisfactory quality of care for children. The manager of the group is well qualified and experienced in early years work and is supported by a staff group, the majority of whom, have early years qualifications. Staff management, relief and recruitment systems are robust and training needs are well addressed. Children receive a good amount of attention from adults. The premises are welcoming and clean. Records and policies are in the main satisfactory. The child protection policy and complaints policy are not currently complete.

There is a very good amount and range of clean, accessible, age appropriate and interesting play equipment. The premises are clean, welcoming and accessible to children and families.

Staff supervise children well and children are generally safe. However, there are a number of hazards not included in the risk assessment. Children's health needs are well met. Children's nutritional needs are in the main met well but children do not have sufficient access to drinking water. The group has a very good regard to anti discriminatory practice. Children with special needs are well cared for and supported.

Children's activities are well planned in the toddler room and baby room but are not sufficiently planned in the preschool room and children in this area do not receive encouragement to follow up learning opportunities. Staff maintain an environment which helps children to behave well and give children support when they need help to learn social skills.

Staff have good relationships with parents. There is a good amount of information given to parents about the setting.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- Children benefit from a staff group that have many qualified staff members with some staff having a good deal of experience working with children. Staff are encouraged to continue their learning throughout the year so ensuring their skills are kept up to date. The staff are very warm and attentive to the children. The good staff:child ratios ensure that staff are able to give each child a good amount of attention. This helps to ensure that children are well attended to and cared for.
- Children enjoy their play and the toys and equipment accessible to them. Activities are well planned in the toddler and baby rooms so ensuring a balance of activities that meet children's needs. For example in the baby room staff helped children to use musical instruments and sang songs to them using the instruments and pictures. This helped children to develop their understanding of symbols and sounds and social interaction.
- Staff help children to learn how to behave well together using appropriate behaviour management systems. Staff behave very politely with one another and the children thus showing them a good way to behave. Children receive praise and encouragement and children with behavioural difficulties are well supported..
- Staff have a good understanding of the needs of children with special needs and are procative regarding supporting them and their parents.
- The staff have a good understanding and commitment to anti discriminatory practice and provide many positive images of diversity in the play equipment available thus ensuring a positive learning environment for children.
- Children benefit from accessible, clean, brightly decorated premises.
- The nursery have robust record keeping systems so ensuring that all relevant information is recorded as required.
- Parents are made very welcome and are given a good amount of information about the setting.

What needs to be improved?

- the risk assessment needs to be reviewed to ensure that hazards are reduced
- the review of the complaint policy and child protection policy to ensure they are complete and accurate
- the planning of activities in the preschool room and the support of children in that area to take up opportunities to engage their interest in extending their learning
- the availability of fresh drinking water.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report since registration.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
6	Ensure that the following hazards are minimized: The unsafe wardrobe in the baby sleep room The accessible blind strings in the preschool room The excessively hot radiators The insecure front entrance The unsafe storage of the sanitizer spray, scissors and staple gun The use of a kettle in the baby room The practice of children being in high chairs without over shoulder restraints.	30/03/2005

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations

by the time of the next inspection		
Std	Recommendation	
3	Ensure that there are suitable activities planned and on offer in the preschool room and that staff assist children to extend their learning.	
8	Make sure that fresh drinking water is accessible to children at all times.	
14	Ensure that the following procedures are reviewed: The child protection procedure to include contact and telephone numbers for the local police and social services The complaint procedure to ensure that people are aware that they can approach Ofsted at any stage.	

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.