



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113469

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/12/2003
Inspector Name Karin Lane

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Early Years Childcare Nursery
Setting Address 11 Bartholomew Way
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 5JL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Julie Bates

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

Early Years Childcare Nursery opened in 2000. It operates from purpose built premises located in Horsham. 11 rooms are used by the children. Children attend from Horsham and a large surrounding area.

There are currently 156 children from 3 months to 5 years on roll. This includes 33 funded three-year-olds and 2 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs, and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 08:00 until 18:00.

There are 38 part-time and full-time staff who work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. 12 staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). The nursery hold an Investor's in People Award and are working towards obtaining a West Sussex Quality Kitemark.

How good is the Day Care?

The day nursery provides good care for children. Staff are well qualified and have the opportunity to attend further training. They have a thorough knowledge of the well devised policies and procedures relating to the facility. All necessary documentation is in place, however, the registration certificate is not on public view. Space is well used in the nursery, with the children being grouped appropriately. Staff are well deployed and ratio's maintained throughout the day. Children are directly supervised at all times. There are ample toys and equipment to support indoor and outdoor play activities.

There is a high regard to safety at the nursery, there are regular risk assessments and fire drills. Standards of hygiene are high throughout the nursery. Fresh meals are prepared at the premises, these are nutritious and close attention is paid to special diets and allergies. The children learn about the world around them aided by suitable resources and activities. There are good arrangements to support children with special needs. The nursery understands its responsibilities regarding child protection, but could improve the procedure for existing injuries.

Effective planning of activities and themes ensure children progress. Staff devote their time to the children making sure they are secure and happy at the setting. There is good knowledge of the children's individual needs and routines. There are effective methods to ensure children behave well.

The nursery builds good links with parent's, who are made welcome. Settling in procedures are beneficial to both parent's and the children. There are effective methods of communicating with parent's.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were no actions imposed at the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- Effective procedures are used when employing staff. The staff have the opportunity to further their professional training, undertaking National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ's), as well as specific relevant short courses. This ensures that children are cared for by a well qualified work force.
- Good systems for recording attendances are in place. Children are marked in on arrival and out on departure, but there are also checks when children move from one area to another. Ensuring that children are accounted for at all times.
- The nursery is a modern, light building. It looks very welcoming with bright posters, murals and children's paintings on the walls.
- Provision for babies and children under two is very good. Staff meet the children's routines for sleeping and feeds, making sure dietary requirements are followed. There are mirrors, foot painting and toys in a variety of materials which develop sensory experiences.
- Staff are approachable, friendly and welcoming to the children, who respond well to them. By having knowledge of the children as individuals, they are able to plan activities, which not only stimulate, but interest the children too. The children are happy and well settled.
- The nursery has an ample range of good quality toys and equipment, these are beneficial in supporting learning experiences and provide plenty of fun.
- Quality food is prepared on the premises, having regard to healthy eating. Mealtimes are social times, with staff sitting with the children, aiding them if required. The children enjoy their food.
- The setting meets children's needs by effective communication within the nursery, by involving parent's and, with their permission, other professionals to support the welfare and development of the child.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The nursery has devised a variety of effective methods of communication with parent's. There is an informative pack for new parent's, with plenty of useful information about the nursery. Parent's of children aged two years and above are

given written guidance about the foundation stage of learning. Daily written and verbal feedback make sure parent's know what their child has been doing, how they have been and how they are progressing. There are notice boards which keep parent's up-to-date. There are formal meetings and social gatherings during the year, further consolidating the sharing of information, ensuring that children are cared for according to their parent's wishes.

What needs to be improved?

- the way the registration certificate is displayed;
- the records of existing injuries.

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.

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.