



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 101517

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 06/10/2003  
Inspector Name Shirley Ann Jackson

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Ridgemount Cottage Nursery School  
Setting Address 73 Ermin Street  
Brockworth  
Gloucester  
Gloucestershire  
GL3 4EH

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Ridgemount Cottage Nursery Group  
Address 73 Ermin Street  
Brockworth  
Gloucester  
Gloucestershire  
GL3 4EH

## 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

Ridgemount Cottage Nursery and Ridegmount Cottage Nursery School opened in 1993. It operates from six rooms in a refurbished outbuilding, with new extension, in the grounds of a thatched cottage. It is situated in Brockworth, a residential suburb on the outskirts of Gloucester. The nursery serves the local area. It is owned and run privately.

There are currently 51 children from birth to eight years on roll. This includes funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery supports children with special needs.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round, except Bank Holidays. Sessions are from 08:00 until 18:00.

Seven full and part-time staff work with the children. Six have early years qualifications. The nursery receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

The quality and standard of day care is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in groups according to age/stage of development. Sometimes they come together as a larger group e.g. for singing. This ensures that experienced adults are working directly with children to support their learning. Organisation of resources in baby room is weak. In the baby room there is a lack of procedures for ensuring variety or balance of resources used. Children are cared for in premises which are bright, welcoming and well managed by staff. Staff use a wide variety of resources for the children aged two and over. However, resources for the younger children are limited.

Staff are aware of fire procedures and of their responsibilities. However, some safety issues have yet to be resolved. Most areas for promoting children's health are satisfactory. Staff encourage children to acknowledge and value differences through various activities e.g. teaching the children Makaton.

Toddlers and pre-school children are offered a wide range of interesting activities. Children are settled and confident. They have good relationships with staff and each other. Staff listen to and value what the children say. However, care of the babies

lacks depth and understanding. Some quieter children have limited interaction with staff. Staff are positive role models for the children. Their approach is well mannered and pleasant. Children follow this example and behaviour is generally good. Staff encourage good behaviour through praise and encouragement.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents complete detailed forms about their child before they start at the nursery. This ensures that staff can offer consistent care to each child. Information is shared with parents in a variety of ways including newsletters, end of year report and an informal daily chat when they collect their child.

### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

At the last inspection the nursery was asked to:

1. ensure all electrical items are safe, these are now on a care contract.
2. ensure that children couldn't leave the premises, a buzzer has been put on the door, but is not always used.
3. keep radiators at an acceptable temperature, these are now monitored.
4. ensure fire exits are signed, this has been done in compliance with the Fire Officer.
5. ensure outdoor play area is safe, all building materials have now been removed.
6. provide suitable hand drying facilities, this has been done.

### **What is being done well?**

- Toddlers and pre-school children have access to a wide range of interesting activities.
- Children are settled and confident. They have good relationships with staff and with each other.
- Positive behaviour is encouraged through praise and encouragement e.g. "that's good counting, well done". Staff are positive role models for the children. They are well mannered and pleasant.
- Parents complete detailed forms about their child before their child starts at the nursery. This ensures that staff can offer consistent care to each child. Information is shared with parents in a variety of ways including newsletters, end of year report and an informal daily chat when they collect their child.

### **What needs to be improved?**

- the organisation of resources in baby room to ensure children have variety and a balance of resources;

- the arrangements for the care of the babies to ensure positive interaction with staff;
- the procedures for ensuring children's safety when using highchairs;
- the arrangements for parents to acknowledge when medication has been administered;
- the procedures for ensuring good hygiene practices before eating.

### **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
3	plan a range of activities and play opportunities for baby's overall development
5	provide a suitable range of toys and activities, in order to meet the developmental needs of babies/ younger children under 2 years
6	ensure that children in highchairs are appropriately harnessed

## **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.*