



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY249230

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 27/01/2004
Inspector Name Mary Dingley

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Schools Out Club
Setting Address Pondhu School
Penwinnick Road
St Austell
Cornwall
PL25 5DS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Yvonne Smith

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

Schools Out Club opened in 2002 at the current premises, but have been operating since 1997 in other premises. It operates from the school hall and a classroom in Pondhu C P primary school in St Austell. The club serves a number of local schools.

There are currently 180 children from 4 to 13 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as a second language.

The group opens six days a week during term time . Sessions are from 07.45 to 08.45 and 15.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday and 08.00 to 17.30 on Saturday. Holiday opening times are Monday to Saturday from 08.00 to 18.00.

One full time and six part time staff work with the children during term time. This can vary during the holiday club. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3.

How good is the Day Care?

Schools Out Club at Pondhu school provides satisfactory care for children. Good use is made of available space and children receive good staff support. Training is available to staff who require it. The regulator is not always informed of when new staff are appointed. This is a mandatory requirement. Children benefit from a good range of toys and activities from which to choose. During the holiday club activities are more planned and structured. This includes outings to various locations. Most required policies and procedures are in place which assists in the smooth running of the service, however, some need reviewing.

Staff have a general awareness of safety issues and take steps to minimise these. Staff report frequent fire drills are undertaken. However relevant documentation is not readily available. Risk assessments are only undertaken for outings. Sick children are cared for appropriately. A policy is in place informing parents of the club's procedures in respect of caring for children who are ill or infectious. Staffs' first aid training does not always include paediatric care. Children are shown respect by staff and this is reciprocated. Child protection issues are frequently discussed at staff meetings. This ensures the staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities in this area.

Children are confident, happy and play well together. They are aware of their routines and boundaries. Children with special needs are fully supported within the club and included in all activities. Staff offer children constant praise and encouragement. This reflects on the children's behaviour which is good.

A comprehensive welcome pack is available to parents containing information about staff, opening hours and the different clubs within the Schools Out group. Parents have free access to the club's policies and procedures. Positive verbal feedback about the club is provided by parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable. This is the first inspection at the new premises.

What is being done well?

- Adult support and encouragement for children are good. There is a good range of activities from which to choose. A wide choice of planned outings are available to children at the holiday club.
- The support provided for children with special needs is good. They are included within the activities and staff adjust their working environment when needed.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff treat children with respect, they are included in decision making. Children are taught to respect each other.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for appointing new staff to ensure Ofsted is informed at the time and the appropriate paperwork is completed
- the policies and procedures to ensure all are in place and written in line with the national standards and associated guidance.

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
1	Ensure Ofsted is informed of any staff changes when they happen and the appropriate forms are completed and forwarded to the regional centre.	06/02/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
14	Ensure all policies and procedures are in place and written in line with the national standards and associated guidance especially in respect of the policy for lost children and the child protection policy to include allegations against a member of staff.

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.