



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY248260

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	22/04/2004
Inspector Name	Angela Ismond

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Pitton Pre-School
Setting Address	The Village Hall White Hill, Pitton Salisbury Wiltshire SP5 1DU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Dr Carolyn Beckett
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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

Pitton Pre-school has been open since September 2002.

It operates from a large room in Pitton village hall and has access to a kitchen and cloakrooms. There is an area available for outdoor play. The pre-school serves a wide rural catchment area.

There are currently 33 children aged two to five years on roll. This includes 19 funded three-year-olds and 11 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children with special needs and those who have English as an additional language.

The group opens five days per week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 to 12:00 with an optional lunch period up to 12:45. Five members of staff work with the children. Three have early years qualifications and one member of staff is currently on a training program. The pre-school receives support from the Early Years Network team and Special Needs Area team.

How good is the Day Care?

Pitton Pre-school provides good quality care for children.

The pre-school is very well resourced and the children have the opportunity to choose from a very good range of activities. The children are encouraged to develop their independence and are confident, happy and well behaved. Resources are in good condition and are kept well maintained and safe.

The pre-school have taken positive steps to fully utilise the play space and environment making it bright, attractive and welcoming to the children.

The children are supervised well at all times. A high majority of the hazards have been minimized. There is a comprehensive selection of policies and procedures in place to promote good health and hygiene within the pre school.

A particular strength of the group is the way the staff act as good role models to the children. They are enthusiastic about attending training courses to update their knowledge and skills. Training courses attended include Child Protection and Special Needs training. Staff's performance is monitored, evaluated and their training needs well met.

Children are encouraged to develop their independence at snack times when they assist with pouring out of the drinks and handing out of the snacks. The group makes drinks readily available in the form of each child having an individual named bottle of water, however children are not reminded that they can have a drink.

Staff at the pre-school have formed good links with the parents and they work well together with them to meet the children's needs. Parents are warmly welcomed by the staff and they are consistently courteous, polite and friendly towards them. Very good, positive responses were received from the parents questionnaires complimenting the group on the care they provide for their children.

The group has a comprehensive selection of policies and procedures in place that exceed the minimum standard. Records are kept neatly, and are reviewed and updated as and when needed.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There were no actions raised at the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide the children with a good range of activities and play opportunities to promote the children's learning in all areas. Planned and free play activities provide the children with sufficient challenge where they can initiate their own play and learning as well as opportunities for activities which need more support and direction from staff.
- The pre-school has a very good selection of toys which are in good condition and are kept well maintained through the group's safety and cleaning rotas. This ensures that the children receive a good balance of stimulating activities and ensures that toys are safe and clean for them to use.
- The parents are warmly welcomed by the staff and they are consistently courteous, polite and friendly towards them. They are available at any time to discuss any queries, worries or concerns regarding the care of the children. Staff have formed good links with the parents and they work well with them to meet the children's all round needs.
- The staff have taken positive steps to use the play space as effectively as possible, and to make it welcoming through the use of temporary display boards in order to display the children's work.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Staff act as very good role models to the children. They are kind, attentive and communicate with the children with thought and consideration at all times. They respond naturally to the children with warmth and affection providing kind words of reassurance and explanations to ease the children's worries or concerns. Children are genuinely praised and encouraged for their efforts to develop their confidence and self esteem. The children respond by being happy and content and behaving well in a calm, positive play environment.

What needs to be improved?

- the children's safety in respect of the ventilator heater fan;
- the information provided to the children regarding drinks.

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 recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
6	Make sure that the hazardous floor mounted heater is inaccessible to children.
8	Ensure that the children are regularly informed that they can have a drink from their water bottle at any time.

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.