



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 119741

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 05/02/2004
Inspector Name Lilyanne Taylor

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Springhill Pre-School
Setting Address Millfield Avenue
East Cowes
Isle of Wight
PO32 6AS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Spring Hill Pre-School Committee of Managers

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Spring Hill Pre-School Committee of Managers
Address Spring Hill Pre-School
Millfield Avenue
East Cowes
Isle of Wight
PO32 6AS

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

Springhill pre-school opened in 1999.

It is a management committee owned pre-school and operates from mobile premises, which are situated in the grounds of the Convent of the Cross which, is in the East Cowes, area of the Isle of Wight. The pre-school have sole use of their own fully enclosed out door play area.

Springhill pre-school provides care for children from all areas and it is their policy to take children from the age of two years six months.

Children are able to attend a variety of sessions.

Springhill pre-school is open Monday to Friday during term time only. Pre-school sessions are from 09:00 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 15:00. Lunch care is provided from 11:30 to 12:30.

The pre-school provides care for children with special needs and would support children who speak English as an additional language.

Springhill pre-school are eligible to accept funded 3 & 4 year olds.

Currently six staff work with the children, all have relevant experience and three members of staff have an NVQ qualification in early years childcare and education.

At the time of inspection the pre-school has 37 children on roll, of these 16 are nursery educationally funded 3 year olds and 6 are nursery educationally funded 4 year olds.

The pre-school receive support visits from personnel within the Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership and the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Springhill pre-school provides satisfactory care for children.

All staff are experienced and most are suitably qualified to care for children.

Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment for all children, they are happy,

settled and well cared for. The premises and facilities are suitable for accommodating children who have mobility needs. Space, resources and equipment are well laid out in the provision which ensures the needs of all children are met.

Children are provided with a wide range of toys, equipment, and resources. Resources for raising children's awareness of the diversity of society are limited. Toys and resources are not regularly checked to ensure they are in a suitable condition.

Staff have an awareness of children's safety and areas children access are safe. No risk assessments are carried out on electrical items the pre-school use. The access to the premises is kept secure. Health and hygiene procedures and practices are good, upheld in practice and promote the good health of children. Children are provided with regular drinks, and staff promote healthy eating when providing snacks. All children are included and treated with respect. Staff have a positive understanding towards caring for children with special needs. Staff have sound knowledge of all child protection issues and the referral procedures to be followed if abuse of a child were suspected.

Children are provided with a balanced range of activities. The staff's management of children's behaviour is good.

Staff establish a good relationship with parents, they exchange information daily regarding the children.

All relevant documentation is in place and of an exemplary standard and most records are maintained as required. All children's records are stored securely so confidentiality is maintained.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the pre-school agreed to address a number of actions raised, they have made satisfactory progress in addressing most of the actions.

Suitable toys and equipment for the age range five to under nine have not been purchased as the pre-school have decided to only provide care children up to the age of five years.

Written confirmation of temporary planning permission being granted has been obtained by the pre-school.

All visitors to the premises are now recorded, although children's records of attendance are still not maintained accurately.

Risk assessments have been further developed and procedures have been implemented for carrying out risk assessments, although these do not include the checking of electrical appliances or equipment.

The child protection statement includes the procedures to be followed if an allegation of abuse were to be made being made against a member of staff and volunteers.

An administration of medication policy and the procedures to be followed are in place and written permission is sought from parents for the seeking emergency treatment / advice. All parents are informed of accidents to their children and countersign the accident records.

Parents are now provided with all relevant information as detailed in the national standards.

All committee members and staff submit the relevant forms to OFSTED for vetting procedures to be carried out, and are given full information and guidance on their roles and responsibilities

A system is in place which monitors the access to the entrance lobby of the premises.

The person left in charge has knowledge of the supervisory role.

What is being done well?

- All staff work well as a team, they are aware of their responsibilities and deployed effectively which ensures all children are well cared for and their individual needs are met.
- Children are able to access toys and equipment easily, all boxes are labelled to identify contents which encourages their independence.
- Staff have good strategies in place for managing children's behaviour, which are appropriate to the level of understanding and the ages and stages of development of all children.
- Parents are fully informed of all the operational procedures of the pre-school through the very comprehensive information booklet they are all given. Parents are offered a good settling in procedure for their children, staff welcome them into the pre-school to stay with their children, and they are able to be flexible with their children's hours of attendance until they are happy, settled and confident to be left on their own.
- All documentation is in place as required, it is clearly written and well organised, which ensures the smooth running of the provision.

What needs to be improved?

- the recording of children's daily attendance;
- the checking of toys and resources to ensure they are of a suitable quality and in working order;
- the procedures for checking the safety of electrical equipment and appliances;
- the resources for raising children's' awareness of diversity.

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 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | Ensure the daily records of children's attendance are updated throughout the session to reflect how many children are present and include the exact times of their arrival and departure. |
| 5 | Put in place procedures for regularly checking toys and resources, to ensure they are of suitable quality and maintained in good working order so children's development in all areas is supported and they make progress. |
| 6 | Carry out a risk assessment of all electrical appliances and equipment, to ensure they are safe to be used and do not pose a risk to children and staff. |
| 9 | Further enhance existing resources to reflect positive images of culture and disability to support children's awareness of the society in which they live. |

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.