

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 503751

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 31/10/2003

Inspector Name Lorraine, Susan Fay

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care

Setting Name Offsprings

Setting Address Railway Street

Nelson Lancashire BB9 9AG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Offsprings Management

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Offsprings Management

Address Railway Street

Nelson Lancashire BB9 9AG

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

Offspring's offers a wide range of care facilities in order to meet the needs of the local community, current facilities offered are:

- * Wrap around care breakfast club, lunch time club, after Nursery club.
- * Term time nursery group.
- * Holiday play scheme

The setting operates Monday to Friday between 08:00 and 18:00. There is an intention to increase the core opening hours in the near future. The group is registered to look after a maximum of 24 children aged from 2 - 8 years of whom no more than 6 can be under the age of 3 years. This type of care allows some continuity of care for the children and families within the local community.

Offspring's is based within the McMillan Nursery School (A Local Education Authority Run Nursery) with the registered premises having sole use of a large activity room, a smaller activity room, bathroom and kitchen. There are also facilities for nappy changing. Shared facilities include a staff room, staff washroom and a secure outside play area for the children to play out of doors. Offspring's has a separate entrance and a small lawned area used specifically for the younger children.

A number of the children attending Offspring's also attend the Nursery School. There is therefore close liaison with the staff from both facilities. The group also has the opportunity to loan equipment if required from the Nursery School.

The premises are situated within a highly populated area within easy access of Nelson town centre. A percentage of the children attending the group are from Ethnic origin. One staff member is bilingual.

Offspring's Playgroup facility is registered with Ofsted in relation to the Nursery Education Grants for 3/4 year olds and therefore follow the areas for the Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum.

A part of the aim of Offspring's is to work with parents and the community to create a happy, safe, secure and stimulating environment' (taken from the groups literature February 2002).

How good is the Day Care?

Offspring's provides good care for children.

The premises are warm and welcoming and are enhanced with displays of children's artwork. Staff make good use of all available space. Children are secure and happy and are able to move around the setting with confidence. Children are provided with appropriate equipment, which includes furniture for relaxation, this ensures the children have a stimulating, relaxed environment. Most documentation is generally kept in very good order.

An emphasis is placed on the children's safety both within the setting and out of doors; detailed risk assessments are regularly up dated. Children are made aware of personal hygiene through daily routine practices and are encouraged to eat healthily. Individual needs are met well, staff promote equal opportunities and ensure that all children have access to all activities and play experiences. Children are introduced to other cultures and bilingual staff are employed.

A wide range of activities are available in order to promote all round development in young children, staff encourage children to extend in particular their talents in relation to music and craft. Positive behaviour is actively encouraged, staff act as good role models and ensure that children are aware of their boundaries.

Partnerships with parents are established from the onset, staff form good relationships with parents and keep them well informed. Parents can access all policies and procedures and are encouraged to make comments in relation to the service provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection Offspring's Management Committee agreed to develop and review an operational plan, conduct risk assessments and ensure that children could access drinking water throughout the session. A detailed operational plan is now in place, there are detailed risk assessments which contribute to the safety of the children and a water fountain enables children to access drinking water during the session. This has enhanced the overall care of the children.

What is being done well?

- An effective key worker system ensures that children's needs are met. Staff
 are interested in what children say and act as good role models, children feel
 confident and secure as a result.
- Good use is made of available resources both within the setting and out of doors. Children move freely around the group and have access to a wide range of activities in particular music and craft. All activities provided encourage development in young children including an understanding of other cultures. A bilingual staff member assists children to extend children's understanding and language.

- The premises are warm and welcoming and are enhanced with children's art displays. Staff provide children with appropriate areas and furniture for relaxation.
- Children's individual needs are met well. They are introduced to good hygiene practices and are encouraged to eat healthily. Children are aware of their boundaries and staff act as good role models in relation to promoting positive behaviour. Staff place a high emphasis on safety both within the setting and out side.
- Staff have good relationships with parents, information is shared on a regular basis and parents have access to a comprehensive set of policies via a well-written operational plan.

What needs to be improved?

 documentation in relation to the attendance register and written permission from parents relating to the seeking of emergency medical advice/treatment for all children

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
	include exact times of arrival and departure of children and staff in the attendance register
	ensure that written consent regarding emergency medical advice/treatment is sought for all children

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.