



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY273312

INSPECTION DETAILS

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Inspection Date | 06/12/2004 |
| Inspector Name | Cheryl Langley |

SETTING DETAILS

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Day Care Type | Full Day Care |
| Setting Name | Highfield Day Nursery |
| Setting Address | Station Road Braughing Ware Hertfordshire SG11 2PB |

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

| | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| Name | Mrs Christine Michelle Raniere |
|------|--------------------------------|

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

Highfield Day Nursery was registered in November 2003. It operates from a single storey building in Braughing near Buntingford. A maximum of 32 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 07.45 to 18.30 for 51 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently 20 children aged from 3 months to under 4 years on roll. Of these, 5 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from Braughing and the surrounding towns and villages.

The nursery welcomes children with special educational needs, or those who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 5 members of staff. Two of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two members of staff are working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Highfields Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. The environment is organised effectively to ensure that children have access to a range of equipment and resources. They can participate in different types of play and rest with the space available, and with the use of a secure outside area. Staff are aware that they need to devise a plan which ensures they meet the qualification requirements of the National Standards. Most of the required documentation to support this provision is in place however, a current Public Liability Insurance certificate is required, the medication records lack detail and the lost child policy is to be implemented.

Staff have an awareness of safety procedures and of the need to improve fire safety by having prompt access to a fire blanket at all times. The operational plan is in place and accessible to parents. Children are developing good hygiene practices through routines that encourage regular hand washing and brushing teeth. They are provided with a varied and healthy diet and staff ensure children with special dietary needs are well catered for. Staff respond to children's individual needs and interests, and use praise and encouragement to develop their confidence and self esteem.

There is a good range of play opportunities provided for the children through planned activities and free play, both inside and in the outside area. The children are

learning to play well together and are supported by staff who spend time talking to the children, encouraging them to use their imagination and to promote their learning.

There is a valuable partnership with parents. Information is shared both formally and informally on a regular basis. Ofsted have received positive and complimentary feedback from parents about the staff and the care given to their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- A range of activities are planned to help children make progress in all areas of their development. Their language, mathematical thinking and imaginations are supported through play and daily routines. They are involved, interested, and enjoy their play with peers or members of staff. The children are keen to explore the muddy outside play area, digging with their spades or climbing in the tyres. Inside they enjoy playing the farm animal game, taking turns to spin the wheel, pick out their animal, make animal noises together and sing 'Old McDonald had a farm'.
- Children are provided with drinks regularly and given a variety of meals which are healthy and nutritious. Staff work closely with each other and parents to meet the needs of children with special dietary requirements. Meal times are a social occasion when all of the nursery children and the staff sit together.
- Staff know the individual children well and are aware of their likes and dislikes. They are patient and considerate, allowing children time to complete difficult tasks, enabling children to develop their independence and build their confidence. The children dress themselves in their waterproof clothing and boots to join in the fun outside.
- Parents are provided with information about their children's progress and activities through regular newsletters, parents' evenings and daily discussions. Feedback from parents is positive and complimentary.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation, relating to a valid certificate of Public Liability Insurance, the recording of medication administered and the policy for lost children
- the procedures to ensure the required qualified staff, are on site at all times
- fire safety, this refers to the fire blanket.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last

inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | Devise an action plan that sets out how the required staff training and qualifications will be met. This refers to child protection, food hygiene, first aid and early years qualifications. |
| 6 | Ensure the fire blanket is fixed and accessible in the kitchen at all times |
| 14 | Ensure that a current certificate of Public Liability Insurance is readily accessible on the premises; that a policy is devised for 'lost' children and that the records of medication contain parent signatures giving consent for medication and acknowledging the dosage given. |

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.