



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127462

INSPECTION DETAILS

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|-----------------|--------------------|
| Inspection Date | 27/01/2005 |
| Inspector Name | Lesley Anne Cannon |

SETTING DETAILS

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|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day Care Type | Full Day Care |
| Setting Name | Poplar Pre-School |
| Setting Address | Giddyhorn Lane Pavillion Poplar Grove, Allington Maidstone Kent ME16 0DE |

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

| | |
|------|------------------------------------|
| Name | The Committee of Poplar Pre-school |
|------|------------------------------------|

ORGANISATION DETAILS

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name | Poplar Pre-school |
| Address | Giddyhorn Lane, Allington Maidstone, Kent Maidstone Kent |

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

Poplar Pre-school opened in 1975. The group has moved premises and operates in a pavilion in a residential part of Maidstone, adjacent to a playing field. The group operates in a large hall and has recently had an additional smaller hall built, to cater for the numbers of children. They have use of a cloakroom, kitchen and office. Children will be grouped by age between the two halls. Local amenities are within walking distance.

There are currently 89 children aged between two and half and five years on roll. This includes 75 funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports three children with special needs and one child with English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during term time only. The older children bring a packed lunch and stay all day.

Eight staff work with the children. Four of these hold an early years qualification to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from a teacher mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Poplar Pre-school provides a good standard of care for children.

All aspects of the provision are well organised and effective use is made of the space and resources by the staff in the pre-school to ensure that all children are well cared for. Children can access a range of stimulating equipment including a selection that reflect anti discriminatory practice. The pre-school offers children a well resourced and relaxed environment for children to pursue a stimulating range of practical activities which encourage children to develop their skills and to learn. Staff are guided by a clear set of policies and procedures which are regularly reviewed to ensure they meet the needs of the children attending.

There is good security inside and outside, staff carry out regular risk assessments. There is an effective key worker system which enables staff to establish good relationships with children and their parents. Children benefit from consistent routines and imaginative activities which support good behaviour management techniques. Children with special needs are well supported and fully included in

activities.

There is an excellent partnership with parents supported by an active management committee with good parental involvement and support. Parents are welcomed into the pre-school and receive a variety of newsletters and can access information about the routines.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The group have now produced an operational plan.

What is being done well?

- effective use of space and resources that reflect anti discriminatory practices..
- clear and consistent behaviour management.
- the provision is well organised with clear policies and procedures which are understood by staff and used effectively

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Staff are consistent in managing behaviour and give praise and encouragement which helps children to feel confident and secure, attention is given to those younger ones who need a little more time to understand where the boundaries are.

What needs to be improved?

- continue professional development

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.)

Complaint received in May 04 referring to standard 7 and 12. Provider carried out an internal investigation.

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 |
|-----|-------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Continue to up date professional training |

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.