



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY233210

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 22/10/2003
Inspector Name Caroline, Marie Hearn

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Acorn's Out of School Club
Setting Address Hampstead Norreys Village Hall, Newbury Hill
Hampstead Norreys
Thatcham
Berkshire
RG18 0TR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Acorns Out of School Club 1092528

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Acorns Out of School Club
Address Hampstead Norreys Village Hall, Newbury Hill
Hampstead Norreys
Thatcham
Berkshire
RG18 0TR

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

The Acorns Out of School Club registered in April 2002. They provide after school care for children attending Hampstead Norreys Primary School. The group operates from Hampstead Norreys Village Hall, which is in Hampstead Norreys, Thatcham.

The group is open daily from 15:15 to 17:30 hours during the school terms. They provide care for primary school children attending full time education. They have children attending who have special needs. No children speak English as an additional language.

They have one full time member of staff who is the play leader and five part time members of staff. No staff are currently qualified

How good is the Day Care?

The over all quality and standard of day care is satisfactory. Staff are deployed effectively and work well as a team. The play leader is at present the only full time member of staff. The part time staff all work on set nights to ensure the children are offered continuity of care. The group has a large selection of well maintained toys and equipment, which encourage children's development and ensure that they are sufficiently challenged. They have a varied selection of resources, which reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, disability and gender. These are used during planned activities to ensure the children obtain a good understanding of our diverse society. All the relevant policies and procedures are in place and staff are clearly aware of these and implement them appropriately during direct work with the children. All of the relevant documentation in place although in places this lacks certain detail.

The group have appropriate safety arrangements in place and the reasons for these are explained in an age/stage appropriate way to the children. They maintain clear information regarding each child and staff have clearly taken the time to get to know all the children present. This is reflected in the type of individual care offered to the children. Healthy eating is actively promoted during snack time and children are encouraged to select fruit rather than biscuits.

Planning and preparation is well thought through and this result's in the children being offered appropriate activities and gaining as much as possible from them. The

staff are consistent in their method of behaviour management. This ensures that the children have clear boundaries.

Time is made at the end of each session for staff to talk to parents regarding any concerns and to discuss their child's day and achievements. Parents are not given copies of policies/procedures although can see these if they wish.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A, as transitional inspection.

What is being done well?

- The staff work hard to ensure that the environment is warm and welcoming for the children and their parents.
- The group has a large selection of well maintained toys and equipment, which encourage children's development and ensure that they are sufficiently challenged.
- The group are aware of the need to offer the children a balanced diet to promote their healthy growth and development
- The staff are consistent in their method of behaviour management. This ensures that the children have clear boundaries

What needs to be improved?

- qualifications of staff to ensure standards are met.
- procedures, to ensure all children are aware of what to do in the event of a fire.
- documentation, to include and ensure, register shows times of arrival and departure of all children, the complaints procedure gives the name and contact details of regulator and that they have emergency consent for all children.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date
2	Develop and implement an action plan that ensures that training and qualification requirements are met	30/11/2003

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
6	Ensure fire drills are undertaken more frequently to ensure all children are aware of the procedure.
14	Ensure the register records the time children leave the group.
14	Obtain signed emergency consent for all children.
14	Ensure complaints procedure includes the name and contact details of the regulator (Ofsted).

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.