



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 512675

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	21/09/2004
Inspector Name	Elizabeth Welborn

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	The Playcentre Pre-School Playgroup
Setting Address	Lidgett Park Methodist Church North Park Avenue Leeds West Yorkshire LS8 1HG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Jeanette Bartle
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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 Playcentre Pre-School Playgroup has been operating for 39 years. It is a privately run group, situated in the Lidgett Park Methodist Church Complex, where it has the use of two large rooms, one smaller room, kitchen and toilet facilities, plus an outdoor play area. The Church buildings are set in the Roundhay area of Leeds and the group is registered to care for a total of 40 children aged from 2 years to under 5 years.

The group is currently caring for 33 children, of which nine 3-year-olds are in receipt of nursery education funding and children who speak English as an additional language. The group provides Sessional care from 09:00 until 12:00 each weekday during term times.

There are 12 staff, some working part-time. Five staff have appropriate early years qualifications, one a qualified primary school teacher and two more are working towards the Diploma in Pre-School Practice qualification. The group also receives teaching support from the Local Authority.

How good is the Day Care?

The Playcentre Pre-School Playgroup provides good care for children. The premises are safe, clean, well maintained and particularly welcoming with good displays and activities well set out for the children's arrival. There are clear routines throughout each session to help the children feel secure. Staff supervise the children very well and most areas are safe for children to play freely. Parents provide their child's mid-session snack and staff ensure that drinks are available for the children at all times. They promote the children's awareness of the need to follow good routines of personal hygiene.

There is an extensive selection of suitable toys and activity resources and the children enjoy an excellent range of stimulating activities. The staff recognise the individuality of the children and know them very well. The key worker system operated at this group, ensures that each child's needs are identified and met. The children respond well to the staff's consistent, positive management of their behaviour and enjoy the plenty of praise and encouragement.

Staff have very good relationships with the parents, who are kept well informed of their child's progress and activity within the group. Information is shared in many

ways to enable the staff and parents to work together to meet the children's needs, although the parents are not made aware that they can have access to the group's written policies and procedures, which cover most areas of provision and are generally extensive. Documentation is very well maintained and meets all requirements.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group was asked to ensure that all staff had Criminal Record Bureau checks. They were also asked to demonstrate how the group size can be maintained to a maximum of 26 children and to obtain information about Area Child Protection Procedures.

All staff have now been appropriately vetted to ensure the children are only cared for by suitable people. When the number of children exceeds 26, the children enjoy free flow between the two rooms and activities and for whole group activities they sit in small groups, with good staff support. The staff discussed their knowledge of child protection issues and agreed that they not only needed information about the Area Child Protection Committee procedures, but they needed some general training about child protection issues. They arranged and completed a suitable course and now have the knowledge to recognise and follow procedures, in case any concerns about the children are identified.

What is being done well?

- The children enjoy an excellent range of stimulating activities, which are well planned to cover all areas of play and learning and to ensure that the needs of all children are met. The children are happily and constructively occupied. Staff interaction with the children is excellent. They are interested in what the children have to say and encourage them to explore, work things out for themselves and make decisions.
- There is a very broad range of age appropriate, safe and well maintained toys, play equipment and activity resources, to provide enjoyment and excellent stimulation for the children. Children have very good access to all the activities available at each session. They are encouraged to make decisions for themselves about what they want to do and whether they want to play alone or with other children.
- The staff are particularly friendly and the play room has attractive displays of children's work and photographic evidence of activities. The rooms are also set out with an inviting range of activities before the children arrive, making this a warm and welcoming environment for the children and their parents.
- The staff know the children very well and key workers ensure that the needs of their key group of children are met. There is a good selection of resources and activities to promote the children's awareness of the wider world and to reflect positive images of gender, ethnicity and disability.
- The staff manage the children's behaviour very well. They are familiar with the group's appropriate policy and ensure that they have a consistent attitude

to managing behaviour. The children behave very well and enjoy the freely given praise of the staff.

What needs to be improved?

- the safety regarding children's access to some particularly hot, electric heaters
- the method of sharing information with parents, about the group's written policies and procedures.

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
6	Ensure that children do not have access to any heaters which are particularly hot.
12	Develop the method used to share initial information about the group's policies and procedures, with the parents.

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.