



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305257

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/12/2004
Inspector Name David Corcoran

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Poynton Methodist Church Playgroup
Setting Address Civic Hall, Park Lane
Poynton
Stockport
Cheshire
SK12 1RB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Poynton Methodist Church

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Poynton Methodist Church
Address Poynton Methodist Church, Civic Hall
Park Lane, Poynton
Stockport
Cheshire
SK12 1RB

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

Poynton Methodist Church Playgroup is based in the premises of the Methodist Church in Poynton. The playgroup provides sessional day care for a maximum of 30 children from the local community, aged between two and a half and five years. It is open from 09:15 to 12:00 Monday to Friday, 12:30 to 15:00 on Wednesdays, term-time only.

The playgroup is owned and managed by the Church Committee, the nominated contact person being the Chairperson, Margaret Hawkyard.

Care is provided by five members of staff in total, all of whom hold a recognised childcare qualification, with additional support from parent volunteers.

The playgroup has use of three play rooms which are divided into different activity areas, a kitchen and toilet facilities. There are two enclosed outdoor play areas where children are able to participate in physical and outdoor play activities.

The playgroup is registered to receive funding from the DfES in respect of nursery education for three and four year olds. There are currently 50 children on roll, 29 of whom are funded. There are no children currently attending either with special educational needs or for whom English is an additional language.

How good is the Day Care?

Poynton Methodist Church Playgroup provides good care for children. The number of qualified staff present exceeds minimum requirements and they are effectively deployed. This ensures that children are safe, well looked after and their individual needs are met. Good use is made of play space to create a rich variety of activity areas to support children's development. There is a good range of play materials and resources which children are able to access easily. There are good procedures for recording children's details but some policy statements are missing or do not comply with current guidance. Revision of these is underway.

Staff are aware of Health and Safety procedures and implement them effectively to ensure that children are kept safe both indoors and when outside. Staff guidance, daily routines and play activities make children aware of safety and good hygiene. Children's dietary needs are known and food provided is healthy, nutritious and provides the opportunity for new taste experiences.

There is a broad range of activities which support children's development, knowledge and understanding. They are encouraged to make choices for themselves, act independently and use their imagination. Staff provide positive role models so that children develop awareness, responsibility and respect for others. Children learn about good behaviour, manners and politeness. Each child is recognised as an individual and is supported according to their needs.

There are effective partnerships with parents. They receive written information about the setting and are actively encouraged to participate. Information about their child is shared with parents and any concerns are discussed. Parents have expressed their happiness and satisfaction with the care provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Procedures for ensuring that all statutory checks are carried out for staff have improved. This ensures that Ofsted are notified of all staff working with the children to confirm their suitability.

Security of the premises has improved to ensure that there is no unauthorised access to areas used by children, thereby improving their safety.

What is being done well?

- Staff are well organised and deployed effectively. Space and resources are used imaginatively to create a stimulating, orderly and supportive environment for the children. Effective teamwork and communication ensures that all staff have a good understanding of the needs of the children in their care.
- There is a broad range of practical activities which are well planned, presented in an interesting and thoughtful way, and achieve all learning goals. A variety of craft media and natural materials are used to provide opportunities for children to express their imagination and creativity.
- Activities extend language, knowledge of the natural world and understanding of numbers, colours, shapes and letters. Children are encouraged to think and learn how to solve problems.
- Staff's interaction with the children is warm, consistent and supportive. Children are able to play and learn independently. They have opportunities to initiate their own activities and explore freely whilst at other times receive the support and direction of staff individually or in small groups.
- Children are confident, independent and made to feel special. They are encouraged to develop their communication skills by sharing their feelings, ideas and experiences in a group.
- Children are settled, have warm relationships with the staff and are keen to communicate with them. They receive lots of praise and encouragement for good behaviour and are helped to understand how they are expected to behave within the setting. They relate well to each other, are well behaved and are encouraged to show respect and consideration for others.

What needs to be improved?

- the Operational Plan, to contain all elements specified in Guidance to the National Standards
- the Child Protection statement, to include Police and Social Services contact details and procedures for allegations against members of staff
- documentation, to include written procedures for uncollected children and appropriate policy statements for Equal Opportunities, Behaviour Management and Complaints.

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	Continue to develop the Operational Plan in accordance with guidance to the National Standards.
13	Improve the written Child Protection statement to include Police and Social Services contact details and procedures relating to allegations against members of staff.
14	Improve documentation, to ensure that there are written procedures for uncollected children, that the Equal Opportunities and Behaviour Management statements comply with guidance and to ensure that the Complaints procedure includes Ofsted's address and telephone number.

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.