



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY282548

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	14/02/2005
Inspector Name	Shawleene Campbell

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Alert Kids Day Nursery
Setting Address	806 High Road Leyton London E10 6AE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Alert Group Ltd 2369110 (ENGLAND)
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Alert Group Ltd
Address	Community Place 806 High Road Leyton London E10 6AE

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

Alert Group and Sure Start jointly manage Alert Day Nursery. It opened in April 2004 and operates from three rooms in a purpose built building. It is situated to the back of The Children's Information Service in Waltham Forest. Transport and local amenities are in walking distance. A maximum of 76 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 to 18:00 all year round. The children's play area are open plan, but are age divided. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are 93 children aged from 3 months to under 5 years on roll. Of these 13 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area and neighbouring boroughs, as most of their parents travel to work within the local community. The nursery currently supports one child with special educational needs, and a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 22 staff. Nine staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. Seven staff are working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Alert Day Nursery offers good quality care for children. The staff work well as a team. They attend training on various child care related courses, that influences their daily practice. The arrangements to obtain a copy of the Code of Practice (2002) need to be addressed. The staff provide a welcoming environment for children and parents, which allows children to feel valued. The children engage in a range of well planned activities, that provide sufficient opportunities for choice and challenge. The systems for carrying out observations of children's progress, and systems for planning activities to incorporate children's individual needs and next steps for children's play and learning need development.

The staff interact well children, listening and talking to them, and using good questioning techniques to encourage children's language development. The procedures to encourage older and more able children's independence through practical activities requires improvement. Key workers know their children well and are able to talk about their key children's stage of development in great detail. Though children's observations are not systematically carried out and consistent.

Staff manage children's behaviour in a positive way, they are consistent, and children respond to their good role models. The staff have a sound understanding of health and safety issues and conduct appropriate daily risk assessments. Parents signatures have not always been obtained to acknowledge entries on the medication record sheet.

There is a strong commitment to working in partnership with parents. Various publications are given to parents to keep them informed about the setting. In addition information regarding their children's progress is shared on a regular basis. This allows parents to have a firm understanding of children's development. The nursery encourages parents to play an active role in the organisation of the group, and development of their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the group's first inspection.

What is being done well?

- A good range of sensory and messy play/ craft activities on offer. Allowing children to extend their imagination and creativity.
- The arrangements for staff to attend training, which enhances their childcare practices.
- The commitment to working in partnership with parents. Periodically parent's satisfaction questionnaires given to parents to build up service provided. In addition parents participate in fund raising events and trips.
- The relationship between staff and children is very good. They offer a warm, friendly and respectful setting, resulting in children behaving well.

What needs to be improved?

- the systems for carrying out observations, and systems for planning, which incorporates children's individual needs and next steps for children's play and learning
- the procedures to ensure parents acknowledge entries on the medication record sheet
- the arrangements to develop older and more able children's independence through practical activities
- the arrangements to obtain a copy of the Code of Practice (2002).

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.)

Since April 2004 Ofsted has received two complaints relating to Standard 12:

Partnership with parents: Standard 3: Care learning and play: and Standard 7 Health. On both occasions the registered person was asked to investigate and report back. Evidence was provided detailing how they had provided information to parents about infectious diseases, and how they had investigated concerns about sleep routines. The provider has reinforced the policies for sleep time techniques and has displayed the contact details for Ofsted. Ofsted found that the registered provider continues to meet the national standards and remains qualified for registration.

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
3	develop systems for carrying out observations of children's progress, and systems for planning, which incorporates children's individual needs and next steps for children's play and learning.
7	keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children
9	develop children's independence through practical activities.
10	obtain a copy of the SEN Code of Practice (2002).

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.