



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 224039

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 14/01/2004
Inspector Name Juliette Jennings

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Beckbury Acorns Pre-School Playgroup
Setting Address The Old School Room
Beckbury C of E School
Shifnal
Shropshire
TF11 9DQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Beckbury Acorns Pre-School Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Beckbury Acorns Pre-School Playgroup
Address The Old School Room
Beckbury C of E School
Beckbury, Shifnal
Shropshire
TF11 9DQ

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

Beckbury Acorns Pre-School Playgroup is located in the village of Beckbury, near Shifnal in Shropshire. The playgroup uses the Old School Room, which is located within the grounds of Beckbury C of E School.

The group serves the local area and is open Monday to Friday from 09:00 until 12:00. The children can access a variety of sessions and follow a routine which accommodates a mixture of free play and structured activities. They have access to the school playground for outdoor play.

There are four members of staff who work with the children, two of whom hold suitable early years qualifications. The staff access regular training on early years issues and receive support from a teacher mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Beckbury Acorns Pre-School Playgroup is providing a good quality and standard of care. Children are supported well by staff to develop and learn in an interesting and child-orientated environment.

Children have access to a range of age-appropriate resources and activities which help them make progress in all areas of development. Staff support children in planned and free play opportunities by asking questions and listening to what they have to say. They are particularly good at praising children in their efforts and encouraging independence and self-esteem.

Staff access regular and ongoing training in early years issues and current good practice guidelines and this helps to ensure that children are cared for appropriately and in a secure environment. Safety within the setting is generally good, although there were one or two safety issues highlighted at the time of the inspection.

Risk assessments, policies and procedures are in place and have recently been reviewed and updated to ensure that these are working documents, now that the new staff group is in place. However, the child protection policy should be developed further to ensure it is more specific to the setting and the details of Ofsted as the regulator should be included in the complaints policy.

The group maintain a positive partnership with parents, with verbal feedback given

on a daily basis, although more formal arrangements could be developed to ensure that parents are informed about their child's development. Staff are continuing to develop ways of informing parents about the curriculum and encouraging them to become more involved in the playgroup.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable, as there were no actions raised at the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- Children are supported well in their play and learning. Staff interact well with them, asking questions, talking and listening and taking an interest in what children have to say. They are good at providing activities which stimulate and interest children.
- Appropriate methods for promoting positive behaviour are used by staff. They are aware of children's individual personalities and stages of development, praising the children constantly whilst they play which helps to develop their self-esteem.
- The ongoing commitment to provide a more stable staff group is good. Staff are active in attending training and updating qualifications to help ensure that children have a secure, caring environment in which they can develop and learn.
- Children have access to a range of activities which they are encouraged to use in free play and structured activities. Resources are utilised well by staff to provide stimulating activities which promote learning in all areas.
- Children's individual needs and preferences are accommodated well within the group. They are encouraged to make choices about what they want to do, become independent and listen to and respect the views of others.

What needs to be improved?

- daily safety checks so that the environment is safe
- the procedures for checking the First Aid Box to ensure that its contents are not out of date
- the procedures for parents to be informed about their child's progress
- the detail within the complaints procedure so that Ofsted is detailed as the regulator
- the detail within the child protection policy so that staff know what to do if they have concerns.

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	Make sure that trailing leads are safe.
6	Make sure that electrical sockets are fitted with socket covers.
7	Ensure that the first aid box and its contents are checked regularly.
12	Provide opportunities for parents to receive regular information on their children's progress.
12	Include contact details of Ofsted as the regulator within the complaints policy.
13	Update the child protection procedure for the playgroup so that it outlines what staff should do if they have concerns regarding child protection issues.

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.