



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY270041

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	03/11/2004
Inspector Name	Glynis Margaret Kite

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Auntie Steph's
Setting Address	Sparcs Vicarage Road Swinton Manchester M27 0WA

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Stephanie Jane Scoular
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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

Auntie Steph's playgroup opened in September 2003. It operates from new premises, comprising of one large and one smaller hall, separate bathrooms for boys and girls and disabled facilities. A small kitchen, office and large storage facilities is also used. The main hall may be partitioned to create two separate areas, allowing for two groups of children, within the maximum numbers. The premises are situated close to two primary schools, in the Swinton area of Salford and serves the local community.

A maximum of 40 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. The playgroup is open from 08:45 to 11:15 every day, term time only.

There are currently 30 children aged from 2 to under 5 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The playgroup supports children with English as an additional language and children with special needs.

The playgroup employs six staff in addition to the manager. Over half of the staff, including the manager holds appropriate early years qualifications. Others are working towards suitable qualifications. The playgroup receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

Auntie Steph's Playgroup provides good quality care. The setting is well organised and maintains effective procedures for vetting staff. Space is organised well with an emphasis on children having fun in a safe environment. The setting is warm, welcoming, with a friendly atmosphere, which contributes to the quick settling in process for children. The setting operates a key worker system. Records and documentation is in place and up to date.

The staff place a strong emphasis on safety and carry out risk assessments. Written procedures for promoting good hygiene practice are followed consistently by all staff, they have all attended health and safety training. All areas of the premises are clean and well maintained. The staff have good systems in place for supporting children with special needs and those with English as an additional language. They have a working knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and procedures.

The provision is well resourced with toys and equipment, which are appropriate to the age range of children. Children have variety and first hand experiences and are able to explore natural materials as part of themes and topics covered in the planning. Staff plan a range of structured and free play for the children. However, planning is currently being developed further. The activities offered are fun and stimulating and children are engaged and interested. Most of the children are confident and settle quickly in to the routine. They interact well with the staff and are starting to build relationships with their peers. The staff are sensitive to the needs of the children and their level of understanding regarding behaviour management. In some circumstances children are able to sort out their own differences. Appropriate strategies are implemented. Children behave well.

The staff have formed good relationships with parents and provide a wealth of information about the setting and how it operates.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- The organisation of the group is good. The manager and staff make good use of the space and resources to the benefit of children. The play is set out into various areas ensuring children have opportunities for physical, emotional, intellectual and social play.
- The manager and staff place much emphasis on providing a warm and welcoming environment for staff, children and their parents'. They achieve this by ensuring the premises are safe, displaying children's work, maintaining a comfortable temperature and presenting a range of activities ready for when the children arrive. The staff are also cheerful and friendly, they greet all parents' and children and welcome them into the setting.
- The staff dedicate time to talking, playing and listening to the children. Each member of staff is allocated an area to work, where they engage the children in the activities. The level of interaction is good and all children are afforded individual attention throughout the session. The staff work in key groups which enables children to form relationships with a consistent member of staff. The staff plan a full range of activities for children based on observations and the birth to three matters document.
- The staff work in partnership with parents and provide them with a wealth of information about the setting. Parents are invited to contribute to the themes and topics which their children will be involved in. There is a notice board to keep parents informed of activities taking place. Parents are also included in meetings and a questionnaire is available for their views on the setting.
- The manager is committed to supporting staff with regard to further training and they regularly attend various short courses.

#### **An aspect of outstanding practice:**

The staff effectively link areas of learning through play by providing a variety of resources in each area, such as dressing up clothes, books and tools in the construction area, alongside the building bricks. All play areas are presented in a bright and inviting manner to stimulate children's interest and further enhance their individual learning through play. (Standard 3)

#### What needs to be improved?

- the planning regarding individual needs.

**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.)**

No complaints received.

#### 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	Further develop planning regarding the individual needs of children.

## **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.*