



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 507968

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/10/2004
Inspector Name Catherine Hill

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Candover Valley Pre-School
Setting Address Preston Candover School
Alresford Road, Preston Candover
Basingstoke
Hampshire
RG25 2EE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Candover Valley Pre-school

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Candover Valley Pre-school
Address c/o Preston Candover Primary School
Alresford Road, Preston Candover
Basingstoke
Hampshire
RG25 2EE

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

Candover Valley Pre-school opened in 1993. It operates from one room attached to Preston Candover School in the village of Preston Candover. They have access to toilets and their own fenced play area. The pre-school serves the local community.

There are currently 27 children from 2 yrs 9 mths to school age on roll. This includes 21 funded 3-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Currently no children have special educational needs and there are no children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week during school term time. Morning sessions are from 09.30 until 12.00. At present there is an afternoon session for a mixed age group to accommodate a demand for places. During the summer term more structured afternoon sessions are offered for older children about to start school. Afternoon sessions are from 12.45 until 15.15.

Seven part time staff are employed; three have childcare qualifications and two are undergoing training to complete their Diploma in Pre-school Practice. The setting receives support from the Early Education and Childcare Partnership and the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Candover Valley Pre-school provides good care for children. Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities and organise themselves well during sessions. They maintain a well resourced, warm and welcoming environment for both parents and children. Children have good access to a variety of stimulating learning areas both inside and within the outside environment. Documentation is in place to support all areas of practice and is of a very high standard although could be enhanced further by attending to minor detail.

Staff have a high regard for health and safety. Children play and learn within a clean, safe and secure setting. Staff ensure needs are met on an individual basis having due regard for any special educational or dietary needs children may have.

Staff have excellent relationships with children and interact positively with them. They plan and provide a wide variety of activities to ensure children have good opportunities to progress in all areas of their development. Children are happy,

occupied and play well both independently and co-operatively with others.

Partnership with parents is positive. They have regular access to detailed information regarding pre-school practice and are well informed of their child's progress. Parents are happy with the group and the care staff provide for their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Organisation within the pre-school is excellent. Staff work effectively as a team to maintain a warm and welcoming environment where children's work is valued and attractively displayed. Clean, good quality resources support the range of well planned activities. Children play and learn within a safe, secure setting where staff and the pre-school committee maintain excellent, detailed documentation to support all areas of practice. Staff carry out daily safety checks and act as positive role models with regard to good hygiene practice. Children are made aware of the importance, for example, of washing their hands before and after handling food.
- Care, learning and play is very good. Staff plan a good range of activities to ensure children have opportunities to progress in all areas. They treat children with equal concern and attend to needs on an individual basis, for example, providing support as appropriate to progress play. Effective procedures are in place to ensure any special educational or dietary needs are met.
- Behaviour management is very good. Staff act as positive role models and provide a calm, positive atmosphere for play and learning. Children are polite, well occupied and behave well.
- Partnership with parents is very good. Parents receive detailed information regarding pre-school practice and have regular opportunities to discuss their child's progress with their keyworker. Parents are positive in their praise of the setting and the care given.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The pre-school maintains excellent, detailed documentation covering all aspects of practice. This includes documentation relating to maintaining the setting in a safe, well organised way, to the benefit of the children who attend. Staff share all information and relevant documentation with the parents and ensure that high levels of confidentiality are maintained.

What needs to be improved?

- minor details relating to documentation, to show clear links in cross-referencing documents to the bullying statement within the behaviour

policy, and by including local police and social services contact numbers, where appropriate, in the child protection policy

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
14	Further improve the detailed documentation held by showing clear links in cross-referencing documents to the bullying statement within the behaviour management policy and by including local police and social services contact numbers where appropriate in the child protection policy.

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.