



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 310281

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	22/12/2003
Inspector Name	Denise Sixsmith

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	1st Class Nursery
Setting Address	2 Lordsgate Lane Burscough Ormskirk Lancashire L40 7ST

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs. Ruth Vrain
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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

1st Class Nursery is situated on the outskirts of Burscough village, close to Ormskirk.

There are currently 73 children under the age of five years on roll. The nursery is open from 08:00 till 17:45 Monday to Friday all year round.

There are full time and part time members of staff, who are all appropriately qualified. There is also a cook a cleaner and a secretary. The owner/manager Mrs Ruth Vrain holds a Cert Ed in Early Years.

The establishment is all on one level and is divided into three based rooms. There is also an outdoor play area located at the rear of the building.

How good is the Day Care?

1st Class Nursery provides good care for children.

There are good policies and procedures in place ensuring that children are safe both inside and outside the nursery. Staff work well as a team ensuring that good use is made of the key worker system, space and resources to help children to be settled and happy. They manage behaviour well which develops the children's confidence.

The nursery is warm and welcoming for both parents and children. Toys, equipment and materials are presented in an inviting way to provide a balanced, stimulating range of activities to promote the children's development. All the children have access to the toys and equipment allowing them to develop their social skills, independence and decision making. Staff are vigilant with regards to the health and safety of the children. Good safety procedures are in place including secured access to the premises. Staff are active in promoting good health and hygiene, with children being encouraged to take responsibility for washing their hands at appropriate times.

Children are happy and involved in a range of activities which support all areas of their development. Activities are well planned by staff to enable the children to develop their curiosity and independence. Children make good relationships with each other and staff and are confident within the group. Staff provide positive support and role models for the children enabling them to take responsibility for their own behaviour, develop their self esteem and respect others feelings. Staff are interested in what children have to say and respond with interest.

Parents and staff effectively exchange relevant information with regards to children's progress through a variety of ways including informal daily discussion. Parents speak very highly of the nursery with positive feedback on the parent questionnaires. Parents are well informed of the nursery activities through newsletters, an informative notice board and open days.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Good progress has been made since the last inspection.

The following issues required attention; arrangements for laundering linen, staff accommodation for breaks, domestic style furniture, parental permissions, signatures and the provision for access to policies and procedures.

Adequate arrangements have been made for a staff area away from the children and procedures put in place for the laundering of linen. Domestic furniture has been purchased to assist children in developing mobility and to continue normal life experiences while at nursery.

Parental permissions, signatures and the development of the child protection policy have been secured to ensure the increased safety of the children and the sharing of information between the parents and the nursery.

What is being done well?

- Staff's good understanding of the children's individual needs gathered through assessment and the sharing of information with parents to ensure that children's all round development is fostered resulting in happy, caring and confident children.
- Good use of space and resources ensuring that children are grouped appropriately according to age in appropriately sized groups enabling the children to work together cooperatively as well as individually with staff.
- Children's access to a good range of natural materials through activities such as baking, sand and water play and activities to develop their understanding of science and nature promoted through themes about seasons, animals and plants to develop their curiosity and experimentation.
- Children have access to a good range of books and play equipment which help them to respect and understand the world they live in and which contains positive images of people of differing cultures, races and abilities. They engage in themed activities which raise awareness and helps them value each others' similarities and differences.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The staff's care and attention to detail in producing the children's portfolios which provide a comprehensive personal record for parents of their children's development and achievements within the nursery. (standard 12)

What needs to be improved?

- attention to confidentiality in the usage of notice boards within the base rooms and privacy in the baby changing area
- the storage of children's bags in the foyer to ensure they do not present a tripping hazard.

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	Assess the safe storage of children's bags in the foyer area to ensure they do not cause a tripping hazard.
7	Ensure privacy and confidentiality are maintained at all times within the base rooms.
13	Ensure that the usage of the white board/ notice boards in the base rooms do not constitute a breach of confidentiality.

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.