



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113448

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/11/2004
Inspector Name Jennifer Pearce

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Cootham Pre-School
Setting Address Cootham Village Hall
Chapel Lane, Cootham
Pulborough
West Sussex
RH20 4JX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Tracey Brooks

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

Cootham Pre school has been registered since 1999. It is a privately owned group and is situated in the village hall of Cootham near to Storrington. The pre school provides sessional day care.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. The playgroup is open each week day from 09:15 - 12:15 during term time and extends the session to 13:15 on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for children who wish to stay to lunch club. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. There are currently 33 children on roll. Of these 27 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area.

The pre school is able to support children with special educational needs.

The pre school employs six staff. Five of the staff including the principal hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff are working towards further qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Cootham Pre School provides good quality care for children. The staff team work well together and are fully involved in the daily activities and are committed to attend ongoing training. The staff team provide an interesting and varied range of activities to meet the children's needs and abilities. The children are settled and confident in their play activities. The staff team provide a warm and welcoming environment for parents and children. Staff seek to ensure that the children are safe both in and out of doors by completing regular risk assessments. There are good health and hygiene procedures in place. Staff ensure that all children are able to fully access all play activities. They spend a lot of time praising and encouraging the children. The staff know the children and their families well. All aspects of each child's care and individual needs are discussed fully with parents. Whilst most documentation is in place some needs updating.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The pre school is warm and very welcoming to both children and adults. Staff have clear routines that help children to feel secure and at ease.
- The staff team work well together sharing their knowledge and expertise to meet the children's needs. The staff carefully plan the use of both the in and outdoor area. Through the use of toys, equipment, creative resources and specialist staff for music and French they ensure that the children have interesting and enjoyable play experiences.
- The staff team have a good understanding of behaviour management. They seek to find creative ways to develop consistent behaviour management strategies. The staff encourage the children to respect one another and they teach good manners. The staff also spend a lot of time praising and encouraging the children. This builds upon the children's confidence and self esteem.
- Parents feel able to speak to staff about their child's individual needs. They are welcome to discuss any issues on a daily basis and they receive plenty of information through the Prospectus parent evenings and notice board.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation, to obtain parents written permission to seek emergency medical first aid or advice;
- to record the times of arrival and departure of all children staff and visitors.

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.)

There are no complaints to report.

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 |
|-----|--|
| 2 | To include the times of arrival and departure of all children, staff and visitors. |
| 7 | Obtain parents prior written permission to seek any emergency medical first aid or advice. |

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.