



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127728

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 30/09/2004
Inspector Name Margaret, Ann Sandfield

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Treetops Pre-School
Setting Address Castle Community School
Mill Road
Deal
Kent
CT14 9BD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Treetops Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Treetops Pre-School
Address Castle Community School
Hamilton Road
Deal
Kent
CT14 9BP

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

Tree Tops Pre-School opened in 1988.

It operates from one room in a separate building on the grounds of Castle Community School in Deal, Kent. The Pre-School serves the local community and surrounding areas.

The group is registered to provide 18 places for children aged between 2 and 5 years. There are currently 25 children on roll. This includes 22 funded three and four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school opens five days a week during school term time only. Sessions last from 8:30 to 12:15. There is an optional lunch club that ends at 13:15.

Four part time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3.

The setting currently receives support from the Pre-School Learning Alliance fieldworker, a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Childcare Partnership, special Needs area advisor and Speech and Language therapist.

How good is the Day Care?

Treetops Pre-school provides a good standard of care.

Children are very confident, independent, happy and relate well to staff and each other.

Staff plan and provide the necessary facilities and a stimulating range of activities and play opportunities, which develop children's emotional, physical and intellectual capabilities well. The premises are safe, secure, suitable for their purpose and are very welcoming to children. They have good access to a wide range of toys, resources and equipment that are of a suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

Staff take positive steps to promote children's safety within the setting and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents. They demonstrate a very good understanding of how to promote the health of children and follow procedures to

prevent the spread of infection.

Parents demonstrate that they are extremely happy with the standard of care their children are receiving, They are given clear information about the provision including policies and procedures, information about how staff plan and provide care and educational experiences for their children. Parents and staff share all relevant information to enable children to have their needs met in accordance with parents wishes.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Action plan from transitional inspection of 20/09/2002 has been addressed and confirmation sent to Ofsted on 01/12/2002.

The group has devised a system to record staff plans for the next steps of children play and learning to meet both group and individual needs.

What is being done well?

- Suitable arrangements are in place to protect children from persons not vetted. Staff are deployed effectively and are vigilant about children's safety at all times. There are effective systems in place for the safe arrival and departure of children. Fire safety notices are clearly displayed.
- The premises and outdoor play area are safe, secure, clean, warm welcoming and suitable for their purpose.
- Staff provide a broad range of child size furniture, equipment and toys that are appropriate for their purpose and helps to create an accessible, safe and stimulating environment for children, which promotes their learning in all areas.
- There are very good procedures in place in the event a child is sick or when there is an accident. Staff are actively encouraging good health and hygiene practices.
- All children are actively included and their differences acknowledged.
- There are very good systems in place for the regular exchange of information between parents/carers and staff members. Staff work in partnership with parents to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Parents are very happy and satisfied with the service their children are receiving.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Staff plan and provide extremely stimulating play experiences for all children. They make very good use of space and resources, provide appropriate support and guidance, enabling children to choose confidently and freely from a broad range of toys and equipment, which promotes their learning in all areas.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunities for more able children to pour their own drinks
- the individual recording of medication records, which maintains confidentiality
- the increase in images in displays reflecting ethnicity, culture, gender or disability
- the written information in what situations or circumstances that Ofsted needs to be informed.

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	Encourage more able children to serve their own drink.
9	Increase visual images in posters and display reflecting ethnicity, culture, gender or disability.
12	Ensure medication records remain confidential.
14	Ensure information of issues, that Ofsted needs to be informed of, covers all necessary standards.

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.