



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY276814

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/12/2004
Inspector Name Diane Mary O'Neill

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Greenside School
Setting Address Green Side School
Shephall Green
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG2 9XS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name North Herts Council For Voluntary Services 4693569 295815

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name North Herts Council For Voluntary Services
Address 21a Bucklersbury
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1BG

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

Greenside School playscheme is part of the North Herts Voluntary service, which opened originally at Lonsdale School and moved to Greenside in the summer of 2004. It operates from 2 classrooms, a hall and an enclosed outdoor play space. It is situated in the Shephall area of Stevenage Hertfordshire. A maximum of 25 children may attend the Play scheme at any one time. The Play scheme is open for 5 days during the Easter holidays, 4 weeks during the summer holidays and 5 days at Christmas. It is open from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm, at these times. All the children have access to the secure enclosed outside play area.

There are currently 45 children aged from 5 years to 18 years on roll. Children come from the Stevenage area. The playscheme operates mainly for children with special educational needs, and currently has no children attending who speak English as an additional language.

The playscheme employs 8 staff, a majority of the staff, are working towards a qualification. The playscheme has additional nursing support.

How good is the Day Care?

Greenside Playscheme provides satisfactory care for children.

The playscheme provides a very welcoming environment for all children and their parents. There are clear routines in place throughout the provision and staff's interaction with the children is excellent, this enables the children to settle into the daily routines well.

The staff have a good awareness of health and safety practices and procedures, with excellent nursing support. However, the current risk assessments need to be formally recorded on a daily basis, this was not fully implemented at the time of the inspection. The staff are deployed effectively within the setting to ensure there is usually a one to one staff ratio with the children and young people. This ensures their safety and well-being both inside and outside.

There is a suitable variety of toys and resources accessible to the children within the provision. All areas of space, both inside and outside are used to their full potential to benefit the play and learning opportunities for all children. There needs however to be some development in the resources to ensure they cover all areas of equal

opportunities.

Staff have a good working relationship with the parents. There are effective systems in place that enables the sharing of information formally and informally.

There is a clear and effective behaviour management procedure in place that takes account of all the children's ages and understanding and abilities. Due to some of the needs of the children extra support is required at times, and having a one to one staff ratio, enables a good level of support for the children.

Documentation is well organised; however some areas of child protection procedures and staff awareness needs development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The staff use the resources and all play areas, imaginatively to provide fun and interesting learning experiences, for example the large hall is used for the physical play , such as soft play and bouncy castle. When weather permits outside space used as well.
- Staff very observant of good hygiene practices , and ensuring these are maintained at all times. There is excellent nursing support for the staff and the children attending the play scheme.
- The play scheme has very good procedures and practices for the supporting of parents and their children who have with special needs. Good two way communication to ensure the children's needs are meet in every way.
- Good organisation and management, with a dedicated staff team working very well together, ensuring the children individual needs are met. The staff use their regular meetings for keeping up-to-date with the children's needs.

What needs to be improved?

- risk assessments to be formally recorded on daily basis.
- resources to reflect all areas of equal opportunities.
- procedure to follow for allegations made against staff, to be clear.
- procedure to follow for child protection, to be readily available to staff.

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 have been no complaints since the last inspection.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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	conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying action(s) to be taken to minimize identified risks
9	ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.
13	Develop clear procedures for dealing with allegations against staff. Ensure child protection procedures are readily available to staff (use of flow chart).

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.