



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY267912

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 22/01/2005  
Inspector Name Valerie Block

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care, Full Day Care  
Setting Name Smallworld Pre-School  
Setting Address Newlands Lane  
Workington  
Cumbria  
CA14 3JG

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Smallworld Pre-School and Link Club Ltd 04295494

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Smallworld Pre-School and Link Club Ltd  
Address 64 Holly Bank  
Whitehaven  
Cumbria  
CA28 6SA

## 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

Smallworld Preschool: Ashfield is one of seven nurseries run by Smallworld Limited. It opened in 2003 and operates from a modular building in the grounds of Ashfield Infant School. It is situated in the district of Ashfield near to the centre of Workington, Cumbria. A maximum of 26 children from three to eight years may attend the nursery at any one time. The setting includes a breakfast club and after school care. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.00 to 14.50 in term times. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 45 children aged from three to under six years on roll. Of these, 33 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local area.

The nursery employs five staff. There are four staff members, including the manager, who hold appropriate early years qualifications. There is one member of staff working towards a qualification.

### How good is the Day Care?

Smallworld Pre-School: Ashfield provides a satisfactory quality of care for children. There is a high ratio of qualified and experienced staff and this combined with the effective key worker system and high staff: child ratios, means that children receive good attention and care. The setting has procedures to ensure the suitability of staff. Record keeping is in the main satisfactory, however the attendance register is not sufficiently clear regarding staff attendance. The operations plan is not fully complete and is currently not accessible to parents.

The premises are clean, welcoming and accessible to children and families. The setting is well decorated using children's work to good advantage. There are several safety issues requiring attention including the safety of the radiators, the security of the building and the children's access to the unsafe kitchen area. Equipment is clean, age appropriate, in good condition and very accessible to the children. Children's health and hygiene needs are attended to very well. Children's nutritional needs are for the most part met satisfactorily. Children do not have access to fresh drinking water. The setting has good regard to anti discriminatory practice and receives a good amount of information to meet children's needs. There are systems in place to ensure that children with special needs would be well looked after.

Children are involved in a wide range of interesting and enjoyable activities, using

the varied play areas, both indoors and outside. There is careful planning of activities. Children enjoy their play and are well supported by staff. Staff maintain an environment which helps children to behave well.

Staff have good relationships with parents. Information about the setting and individual children is, in the main, shared effectively.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

not applicable

#### **What is being done well?**

- Children benefit from a staff group who are well qualified and provide warm, consistent care.
- Arrangements for the provision of a healthy environment are well met so ensuring children's good health. There is a good amount of information for staff at the setting to ensure that clean safe procedures are in use. Also children are encouraged to learn about hygienic self care. At break time they sing a song about killing germs by washing their hands.
- The staff have a good understanding of anti discrimination and provide a good amount of activities and equipment which promote diversity. There are posters and toys depicting people from different races and cultures. Children from all backgrounds feel welcome because of this and children learn about other people in society.
- Children benefit from well planned activities which take good account of early learning goals. Children are encouraged to freely choose their learning areas and equipment is made very accessible to them. Staff support children well in their learning. For example, in the creative area, staff had a tray filled with a yellow flour paste to encourage children to explore different materials' properties.
- There is an effective policy for behaviour management that is successful in practice. The staff group provide positive role models for the children and handle challenging situations in a sensitive, calm manner. As a result, children are able to learn about right and wrong and socially acceptable behaviour.
- Parents are provided with a wealth of information about the setting and are made welcome. There is a good amount of detail about the activities on offer and parents are given information on how they can contribute to their children's learning at home. Children therefore settle well and parents are encouraged to be partners in their children's learning and are reassured about their children's care.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- safety: in particular the safety of the hot radiators, the security of the main door to the building and the safety of access to the kitchen
- the provision of accessible, fresh drinking water
- the clarity of the attendance register
- the provision of a complete operations plan which is accessible to parents..

**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 since registration.

**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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
6	Ensure that: The entrance doors are secure at all times The kitchen is inaccessible to children The radiators are kept to a safe temperature or guarded.	30/01/2005

**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure that: The register clearly records staff attendance The operations plan includes all required information and is accessible to parents.
8	Make sure that fresh drinking water is available to children at all times.

## **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.*