



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY259279

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	20/01/2004
Inspector Name	Anne Fox

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St Marys Pre School
Setting Address	Church Rooms Church Street Chesham Buckinghamshire HP5 1HY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St Marys Pre School 1027991
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St Marys Pre School
Address	21 The Ridings Latimer Chesham Buckinghamshire HP5 1UF

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

St Mary's Pre-school operates from St Mary's Church hall in Chesham town centre. The pre-school serves the local area. There are currently 40 children from two to five years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five mornings a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:30 until 12:15.

Ten part time staff work with the children. One member of staff has an early years qualification to NVQ level 3. Another member of staff is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

St Mary's Pre-school provides satisfactory care for children. They offer children a warm and welcoming environment with access to the garden for outside play. The setting has only one member of staff qualified to level three with others working towards an early years qualification. All the relevant paperwork is in place although some areas lack the necessary detail.

There is a range of procedures and safety measures in place to ensure children are safe and the premises do not pose a hazard. However fire drills are not carried out regularly. The staff are confident in their role in the protection of children; a clear policy is in place and parents are informed of the setting's responsibilities. Children are encouraged to have good hygiene habits. Most areas of the premises are clean and hygienic, but the toilets are not cleaned regularly. There is a policy for administration of emergency medication but only one member of staff has been trained in this area.

Staff acknowledge children's differing family backgrounds, encourage them to value each other and raise their awareness of the world around them by providing resources that help children learn about the wider society. The pre-school plan their daily activities well. The children are confident in their relationships with the adults and are well occupied and happy. The staff manage children's behaviour well.

There are good partnerships with parents and carers. Verbal feedback is given to

parents daily and records are available for parent's information. Documentation is stored securely and with confidentiality in mind.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The staff plan and implement a range of interesting activities linked to themes that children are encouraged to participate in and enjoy. The children are encouraged to make choices and are supported in this by the staff. The staff provide one to one attention and develop children's early learning effectively.
- Children are settled in the group; they are involved in large and small group activities as well as individual play. Children occupy themselves well and enjoy many first hand experiences through play. The atmosphere is busy, and children are fully engaged throughout the session. Staff know the children well and individual needs are well met.
- The staff make sure parents are well informed about their child's care. The parents consider that the staff are approachable. The parents are happy with the care and service provided.

What needs to be improved?

- qualifications, so that 50% of staff hold an early years qualification
- fire drills, to ensure that fire drills are practiced regularly and a record of drills is maintained
- health and hygiene, so that at least one member of staff trained in the administration of emergency medication is present at each session and procedures are in place for the daily cleaning of toilets
- documentation, to ensure that accident records are signed by the parent and records of visitors are kept.

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
2	Develop and implement an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met.	27/02/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure an accurate record of visitors is maintained at all times.
6	Make sure fire drills are carried out regularly.
7	Ensure a daily cleaning routine is established for the premises including the toilets.
7	Make sure at least one member of staff trained in the administration of emergency medication is present at each session.
14	Ensure a record of accidents is maintained and signed by the parent.

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.