



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 118587

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/01/2005
Inspector Name Mary Holt

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Romford United Reformed Church Playgroup
Setting Address United Reformed Church
58 / 60 Western Road
Romford
Essex
RM1 3LP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Susan Cole, Lesley Mariott, Wendy Andreet & Elaine
Address Romford United Reformed Church Playgroup
United Reformed Church
58/60 Western Road
Romford, Essex
RM1 3LP

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

Romford United Reform Church Playgroup opened in 1979. The setting operates from a large room in the Church building. It is situated in central Romford, Essex. The playgroup is close to the shopping town centre, local schools, public transport and other community resources.

The setting opens Tuesday to Friday during term time. Opening hours are from 09:15 to 11:45. A maximum of 26 children may attend the setting at any one time; the playgroup serves the local community, and surrounding area,

There are currently 29 children on roll; this includes 14 funded three-year-olds, and 7 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting does not currently support children with special needs, or who speak English as an additional language.

There are six staff plus two regular parent helpers working directly with children, the six staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

The setting receives support from the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). They are also a member of the Pre school Learning Alliance (PSLA).

How good is the Day Care?

Romford United Reform Church Playgroup provides a good standard of care for children.

The premises are safe and well maintained, there is sufficient play space available for children, which is effectively planned and organised. Children have access to a wide variety of good quality, age appropriate play materials, equipment and activities, which promote their overall development and learning. Books and other play opportunities reflect positive images of the wider world. All required records and documentation is in place, maintained and securely stored.

All areas of health and safety are in place, staff are active in encouraging children to develop good personal hygiene. All members of staff have a first aid qualification, two of whom have completed the required course length of twelve hours. Children are provided with drinks and a varied selection of well-balanced and nutritious snacks, which are provided in a manner that encourages children's independence

and choice. A written child protection procedure is in place, which all staff are fully familiar with.

Staff have a good awareness of the individual needs of children, there is a good balance of child initiated, and adult directed activities provided. Staff manage children's behaviour effectively and in a positive manner, children respond well to verbal praise and encouragement.

Ongoing information is shared through children's key workers, and a parents notice board situated inside the entrance area. There are effective systems in place to give parents regular feedback regarding their child's development and progress. Most records and all documentation are kept and maintained to a satisfactory standard with just one area needing slight improvement.

What has improved since the last inspection?

During the last inspection visit one action was made regarding the qualification of the person in charge.

The playgroup leader has completed and obtained a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 3 in Childcare and Education.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide a warm and caring environment and have developed positive relationships with children.
- Children have access to a wide and varied selection of age appropriate play materials and activities which promote all areas of children's learning and development.
- Children have access to a good range of play materials and activities which reflect positive images of the wider world.
- Staffs practice with regards to the management of children's behaviour reflects the setting's policy and procedure. Children were observed to be spoken to in a calm and respectful manner.
- Partnership with parents is good, staff ensure that parents feel welcome within the setting and provide regular communication regarding their child's progress and their individual needs.

What needs to be improved?

- The daily attendance register records the time of children's arrival and departure.

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.)
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There are no complaints to report.

Outcome of the inspection

Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

<i>All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.</i>
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<i>As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.</i>

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	ensure the daily attendance register record's children's time of arrival and departure.

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.