



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 143556

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	16/03/2004
Inspector Name	Alison Jane Williams

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St Nicholas Pre-School
Setting Address	St Nicholas Church Battenburg Avenue Portsmouth Hampshire PO2 5SB

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St Nicholas Pre-School
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St Nicholas Pre-School
Address	St Nicholas Church Battenburg Avenue Portsmouth Hampshire PO2 5SB

## 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 Nicholas Pre-school is situated in the Copnor area of Portsmouth, and has been an established provision since 1962. It is a registered charity a committee run group. The supervisor is responsible for the management and day-to-day organisation of the provision. The pre-school is based within St Nicholas Church Hall and serves children from all surrounding areas. Children have use of two adjacent rooms with toilet and washing facilities provided on the ground floor. The pre-school is open term time only, Monday to Friday, from 09.15 until 11.45 and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 12.30 until 15.00. It is the policy of the pre-school to accept children from the age of two years nine months. At the time of the inspection, 90 children were on the register, including 42 three year olds and 27 four year olds who are in receipt of funding. The group are able to offer appropriate support to children with recognised special educational need and children who speak English as an additional language. At the time of the inspection, 14 members of staff were employed to work with the children and all staff hold relevant early years qualifications. The group receives support from the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership. The group is an accredited member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

### How good is the Day Care?

St Nicholas Pre-school provides good quality care for children.

The supervisor and deputy are suitably qualified and experienced and have updated their knowledge and understanding in a variety of areas through training courses attended. Procedures for appointing and vetting staff are satisfactory.

Policies and procedures are in place, which underpin the day to day running of the provision, and these are conformed to in practice. All documentation is in place and most contain the relevant detail. Space and resources are organised to meet children's needs effectively. The group provides a warm and welcoming environment for all children, parents and carers and the children are happy, confident and well behaved.

Staff take reasonable steps to ensure children's safety although the risk assessment program has not addressed the unsatisfactory flooring in the toilets. Areas for promoting the good health and hygiene of children are satisfactory, although hygiene practices in place regarding hand-washing are insufficient. The group provides

regular drinks for the children and promotes healthy eating when supplying snacks. Staff have a positive attitude towards caring for children with special needs and work together with parents and other professionals to ensure that all children's individual needs are met. Staff have an appropriate understanding of child protection issues and procedures.

Children take part in a stimulating and varied programme of activities. Children are actively involved in their learning. Staff act as facilitators to children's play and their understanding is extended through discussion. Suitable procedures are in place for managing children's behaviour.

Partnerships with parents is good. Staff share information daily regarding the children. Parents are kept informed on children's individual progress and development and the policies and practices of the group.

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

Not applicable

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

- Staff organise a programme of visitors, outings and special occasions. As they visit the library and local shops and talk to visiting dentists or firemen, children learn about how people live and about the services in their own community. Children are provided with opportunities to learn about a variety of different cultures, festivals and customs, through planned activities, special events and celebrations. These provide a stimulus for language, story telling, imaginative and creative play and encourage children to explore themselves, their families and the world around them.
- The pre-school provides a bright and attractive, child centred environment with posters, displays, photographs and examples of the children's work presented throughout the premises. Consistent daily routines help children feel confident and secure. Space and resources are used imaginatively to create a stimulating, orderly and supportive environment for children.
- The pre-school provides a wide range of toys and play materials that support the needs of children up to the age of five years, they are interested, involved and enjoy their play. Children have easy access to most toys, are able to make their own choices of activities, which encourages their independence
- The staff establish good relationship with parents, they are given a prospectus, which contains relevant information about the pre-school. Parents are kept well informed about the provision via parents notice board and regular newsletters and information is shared daily regarding the children. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in the group by joining the committee or parents rota and are welcomed into the group to share their knowledge, skills and interests with the children. The pre-school offers a good settling in procedure for new children, parents are welcome to stay with them until they are happy, confident, and ready to be left on their

own.

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

- the safety of the flooring in the toilets
- children's awareness of good hygiene practices
- the procedures for informing parent's of OFSTED's details and complaints procedure

#### **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
6	Ensure all areas accessible to children are safe
7	Ensure good hygiene practices are in place regarding hand washing
14	Ensure that all records relating to day care activities are kept in appropriate detail

## **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.*