



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 319266

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/11/2004
Inspector Name Kathleen Snowdon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Parkway Playgroup
Setting Address Knoplaw 1st School
Chapel House Estate
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE5 1LH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Parkway Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Parkway Playgroup
Address Knoplaw 1st School
Chapel House Estate
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE5 1LH

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

Parkway Playgroup was established in the 1970s, and provides sessional care and education for pre-school children from local residential areas. The accommodation is a self-contained mobile unit within the grounds of Knoplaw First School, situated within a residential estate in the west of Newcastle. The unit consists of a playroom, with separate toilets and a screened-off kitchen area. The playgroup has access to grassed and paved areas for outdoor activities.

The playgroup operates on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of each week, term-time only. Sessions run from 09.00 until 11.30.

The playgroup is registered for 20 children aged from three years to five years, but only takes a maximum of 16 children at any one time. There are currently 16 children on the register. Nursery education funding is received for all the children attending.

There are four paid staff members and a volunteer helper. All staff work directly with the children and hold appropriate qualifications. The playgroup does not follow a particular teaching method, but emphasises learning through play. The playgroup is a member of the Playgroup Network and is supported by local authority Early Years Advisors.

How good is the Day Care?

Parkway Playgroup provides a bright and stimulating environment in which children receive good quality care. The experienced and well qualified staff work well as a team and plan a well balanced daily routine, during which the children take part in interesting activities to help them make progress in all areas of their development. The staff form very good relationships with the children, who are motivated, enthusiastic and keen to express their thoughts and opinions. The well-defined play areas contain a good selection of equipment which the children can reach easily and safely; this could be further improved by building up resources which reflect positive images of diversity.

Staff are highly conscientious about health and safety issues. They all hold current First Aid certificates, and take part in relevant training, such as the child protection course they recently completed, to ensure that their knowledge is up-to-date and

accurate. All records are well organised, up-to-date and readily available.

Staff work effectively to ensure that all children are included, and their individual needs met. Staff work in partnership with parents, who have very positive views of the staff and the service they provide. Sensitive and appropriate methods are used to manage the children's behaviour, whose good behaviour is recognised and praised by the staff to boost the children's self-esteem and confidence.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the means with which to record the administration of medication have been put in place. The format contains all the necessary detail. Staff supervise the children at all times when they play outside, and smoke detection is checked frequently, to help to ensure that children remain safe during their time at playgroup.

What is being done well?

- Well qualified staff who work well as a team, plan interesting activities for the children, form very good relationships with them, and value and praise their good behaviour.
- The effective partnership with parents who have positive views of the staff and the service they provide, and which helps to ensure that the needs of the children are fully met.
- The conscientious approach the staff take towards health and safety issues, and the very well organised records, which help to contribute to the safe and efficient running of the playgroup on a day-to-day basis.

What needs to be improved?

- resources, to include items which reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.

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.)

Since the last inspection, Ofsted has not received any complaints about this provider.

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
9	Ensure that children have access to an appropriate range of resources that reflect positive images of diversity.

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.