



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 103158

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	13/07/2004
Inspector Name	Linda Janet Chauveau

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Puffins Day Nursery
Setting Address	Water-Ma-Trout Industrial Estate Helston Cornwall TR13

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Caroline Carter
------	-----------------

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Caroline Carter
Address	Puffins Day Nursery Water-ma-Trout Industrial estate Helston Cornwall TR13 OLW

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

Puffins Day Nursery opened in 1991. This privately owned nursery operates from a converted industrial unit on the outskirts of Helston. The Dolphin Out of School Club, owned and operated by the nursery, also runs from the premises, with separate base room and facilities. The nursery and out of school club serve the local area, surrounding towns and villages.

There are currently 128 children from birth to 8 years on roll. This includes 28 funded three- year-olds and 10 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with special needs, there are currently no children who speak English as an additional language attending the nursery.

The group opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 08:30 until 18:00.

The nursery and out of school club employs 13 full-time and 2 part-time staff to work with the children. All the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from an advisory teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). The nursery is a member of The Kernow Association of Day Nurseries (KADN) and The Pre-school Learning Alliance (PLA).

How good is the Day Care?

Puffins Day Nursery provides good care for children.

The nursery is run by a qualified owner and committed staff team. A comprehensive set of policies and procedures underpins the operation of the nursery. The spacious premises are well laid out to provide a welcoming environment for children and adults. Children are able to play with a wide variety of challenging and stimulating toys and activities. Outside play is available, however this area, although suitable and secure, does not offer sufficient interest for children.

The nursery is very secure with good systems in place for monitoring access to the nursery. Staff place strong emphasis on hygiene and safety. Good procedures are followed when carrying out nappy changes and children are encouraged to learn about personal hygiene when using the toilet. Appropriate records are maintained to record accidents and the administration of medication. Healthy snacks, drinks and hot cooked lunches are offered to children. The nursery is able to support the care of

children with additional needs. Staff have a sensible awareness of child protection procedures.

Staff plan a varied range of activities to meet the needs of all ages of children attending the nursery. This includes babies aged under two and children being looked after out of school hours. All children enjoy playing with a variety of toys and resources, which are varied during the weekly timetable. Children are proud of their achievements, are confident and have good self-esteem. Staff enjoy spending time with children, they know them well and set examples which encourage good behaviour.

The nursery is creating an effective partnership with parents. Staff keep parents informed verbally about their children's progress and regular newsletters are provided. Babies have written daily records and developmental records are kept on all children; these are available to parents. Parents are not fully informed about the nurseries operational policies.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the nursery agreed to make several changes to the nursery environment and its policies and procedures.

All actions have now been carried out. The premises are now kept to a high standard of cleanliness, with electrical systems maintained regularly and all dangerous substances kept out of children's reach.

Policies and operational procedures have been improved and updated to ensure that they relate to national standards.

Adult to child ratios are met and the use of key staff members for specific age groupings of children ensures that consistent care is provided.

What is being done well?

- Planning for all age ranges is good. Key staff plan for individual age groups to ensure that a developmentally appropriate variety of activities are provided throughout the week. Staff give babies under two good attention to make sure their individual needs are met. All children's development is noted by staff using relevant record keeping systems.
- The interior of the nursery is very well organised. The space is well laid out to provide suites of rooms for age progression throughout the premises. They are well presented with lots of eye-catching wall displays at child level. The reception area is used effectively to provide information for parents.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They use sensible methods to encourage appropriate behaviour. They set good examples and enjoy spending time interacting with children. This influences children's behaviour, which is good.

- The operation of the nursery is underpinned by a comprehensive set of policies and procedures. These enable staff to clearly understand their roles and responsibilities. An effective induction and appraisal system for all staff and students supports this.

What needs to be improved?

- the use of the outside play area
- the systems for sharing operational information with parents.

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
4	Continue to improve and develop the use of the outside play area.
12	Improve systems to share information about the nurseries operational policies and procedures with parents.

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.