



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127248

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	30/11/2004
Inspector Name	Stephanie Graves

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Highfield Road Pre-School
Setting Address	Highfield Baptist Church Spring Vale North Dartford Kent DA1 2JY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Susan Woodley
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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

Highfield Road Pre-School opened in 1985 and operates from two rooms in a church hall. The setting is in Dartford town centre. A maximum of 33 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 09:30 to 12:00 Monday to Thursday and on a Tuesday from 13:00 to 13:30, term time only. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently 35 children aged from two to under five years on roll. Of these, 28 children receive funding for nursery education. The children attending live in the local area. The nursery does not currently support any children with special educational needs, but does support a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs seven full time and two part time staff. The manager holds an appropriate early years qualification. There are five staff working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Highfield Road Pre-School provides satisfactory care for children. Staff work well as a team and have good relationships with the children and their families.

The registration certificate is displayed for parents. The manager holds an appropriate childcare qualification and has addressed staff training needs. She is aware of the need to ensure a range of policies are in place, which meet with requirements. The daily attendance records for staff and children do not show clear arrival and departure times. Toys and equipment are checked regularly for hygiene and safety.

Children are safe and well cared for. The premises are secure and children are supervised at all times. Staff are aware of their responsibility to ensure children only leave the setting with authorised persons. A written emergency evacuation procedure is practised with the children, but fire safety equipment has not been consistently checked. Accident records are in place, but do not show entry times. First aid training meets with requirements. There are currently no medication records. Children's dietary requirements are met in agreement with parents. A child protection procedure is in place and the manager has a positive attitude towards updating her training. She has attended the necessary training to ensure children

with special needs are supported well. Staff have a good awareness of their responsibility towards the children in their care.

The toys and activities provided, help all children develop in all areas of learning. They are able to move around the setting and make choices, as well as learn through adult initiated experiences. The range of resources provided, include positive images of race, culture and gender. Children are praised for their individual achievements and good behaviour.

The partnership with parents is good. Regular newsletters and an open door policy ensure parents feel informed about the care provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Staff work well as a team. They provide a warm and welcoming environment for all children and their families. The rooms are bright and appealing and children's work is displayed. The manager has a positive attitude towards updating any necessary staff training, to current requirements. Children can play and develop in a professional and caring environment.
- A good range of toys, resources and experiences, meet the needs of all children. A balance of adult and child initiated activities ensure all aspects of play are promoted. Activities and resources are varied to ensure children's interest is maintained. All children show high levels of well-being and involvement. They can play and learn in a safe, secure and stimulating environment.
- The partnership with parents is good. Regular newsletters and an open door policy, keep parents informed about the care their children receive. They feel staff are approachable and friendly and value the service they provide. Parents feel included and informed and children receive consistency of care.

What needs to be improved?

- the training, to include child protection
- the policies, to ensure those required are in place and that the complaints procedure includes Ofsted's contact details, the emergency procedure shows staff roles and the lost child policy includes more detail and a procedure to be followed in the event of a child not being collected
- the daily attendance record, to ensure clear arrival and departure times are recorded for staff and children
- the safety measures, to ensure fire safety equipment is working and checked regularly and the password system is effective and meets with requirements

- the accident and medication records, to ensure the accident records show entry times and medications records are in place and meet with requirements
- the documentation, to ensure all records and documents are in place, kept professionally and are readily available for inspection.

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.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
7	Ensure medication records are in place and meet with requirements.	31/12/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
6	Ensure all necessary safety measures are in place and reviewed regularly, to safeguard children at all times.
14	Ensure the necessary records, documents, policies and procedures are in place, kept up to date and meet with requirements.

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.