



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127085

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	14/07/2003
Inspector Name	Vanessa Wood

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Creche Day Care
Setting Name	Cascades Creche
Setting Address	Thong Lane Gravesend Kent DA12 4LG

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Gravesend Community Leisure LTD
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Gravesend Community Leisure LTD
Address	Thong Lane Gravesend Kent DA12 4LG

## 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

Cascades Crèche opened in 1983. It operates from one room in the Cascades Leisure Centre in Gravesend. The crèche facility is only for parents/carers using the leisure centre and they must remain on the premises when their child is in the crèche.

The registration is to care for no more than eighteen children under five years, at any one time. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The group opens five days a week, all year round. Sessions are from 9.00 am to 12 noon.

Four members of staff are qualified. If more staff are needed the supervisor can call on staff from the leisure centre to help.

### How good is the Day Care?

Cascades Crèche provides satisfactory care for children under five years.

A warm, welcoming environment is provided by staff where children are made to feel secure. There has not been a change in staff for many years and all staff work well together. The room used is spacious, and the crèche has its own kitchen and toilet. Unfortunately, there is no ventilation in the main room and this makes it difficult to maintain an acceptable temperature.

Staff give priority to ensuring children's safety and a risk assessment of the room is made at the start of each day. However, more thought needs to go into the organisation of the room and in particular having a secure area for the babies.

Staff completed their training in child care some years ago and although they have a knowledge of child protection and special needs issues, they would benefit from further training in these areas.

Staff have a good relationship with parents and take time to talk to parents when they collect their child. Policies and procedures which are needed for the efficient and safe management of the provision are limited. This is an area that needs to be improved.

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

The last inspection was a transitional one and this section is not relevant.

**What is being done well?**

- Staff have a good procedure for recording children's arrival and departure from the crèche. (Standard 2)
- The room used for the crèche is of a good size with its own kitchen and toilet areas. (Standard 4)
- Staff are very aware of ensuring children's safety and take measures to make all potential hazards safe. (Standard 6)
- Staff have a good working relationship with parents. (Standard 12)

**What needs to be improved?**

- the staff manual and prospectus needs to be made specifically for the crèche; (Standard 14)
- the temperature in the crèche needs to be kept at an acceptable level; (Standard 4)
- provision for children under two years, by providing a separate, secure area for this age group; (Standard 4)
- the fire evacuation policy for the crèche needs to be updated; (Standard 6)
- staff knowledge of special needs to be updated, and a policy written; (Standard 10)
- staff knowledge of child protection to be updated and a policy written. (Standard 13)

**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?**

<b>The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown</b>		
Std	Action	Date
4	ensure that the room used for the creche is maintained at an adequate and comfortable temperature	14/08/2003
4	provide a separate, safe area for children under 2 years.	14/08/2003
6	Provide an a comprehensive fire evacuation policy for the crèche which is known to all members of staff at the leisure centre	14/08/2003
11	Provide a written statement on behaviour management, which is understood and followed by staff and discussed with parents.	14/08/2003

<b>The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection</b>	
Std	Recommendation
13	develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues
14	provide a written staff manual specifically for the creche
14	provide a prospectus, with policy statements, which is available to parents
10	ensure staff undertake a course on special needs which is consistent with current legislation and guidance.

## **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.*