



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109460

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/12/2004  
Inspector Name Christine McInally

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Herstmonceux Preschool  
Setting Address Village Hall  
Hailsham Road, Herstmonceux  
Hailsham  
East Sussex  
BN27 4LH

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Karen Hathaway

## 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

Herstmonceux Pre-school is a privately run group, which was first registered in 1998. It offers a sessional and extended day care service for children under five and over two years. It is located in the village hall on the outskirts of the village. The group has access to the small hall and use of an outdoor area.

The pre-school is open from 08:30 to 15:30, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and alternate Fridays, and from 12:30 to 15:30 on a Wednesday, term-time only.

Currently there are 55 children on roll, of these 21 are funded. There are no children attending identified as having special educational needs or any for whom English is an additional language. The children attending are representative of the local community.

Including the owner there are ten permanent members of staff, eight of whom hold suitable childcare qualifications and the other two are currently undertaking appropriate training. The pre-school receives support from the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

The standard and quality of care at Herstmonceux Pre-school is good. There is an effective operational plan in place which guides the staff team in their daily practice. All the relevant paperwork is in place and well maintained, although occasionally it lacks the necessary detail. Staff work well together and provide a very warm, child friendly environment; children are happy, confident and well settled.

Staff actively promote personal hygiene with the children and demonstrate a sound understanding of health related issues. Good safety measures are in place and children are safe and well cared for.

Staff form warm, caring relationships with the children and their individual needs are well met. Children confidently choose resources and activities for themselves. Staff have a sound knowledge of each child's needs and interests. They plan an interesting and worthwhile range of topics and activities, children are making good progress in all areas of development. Space and resources are organised creatively to provide a stimulating environment where children learn through play.

Partnership with parents is good and they are provided with clear information about

the pre-school. Parents are offered opportunities to be involved in their child's learning, for example the book loan scheme enables children to continue their learning at home. Staff are friendly and approachable and always make themselves available to discuss individual progress. There are formal and informal systems in place for sharing information on children's progress.

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

Not applicable.

**What is being done well?**

- Staff form warm, caring relationships with the children, and know them well. They spend a lot of time talking and playing with them. Children are happy at the pre-school, they relate well to each other and to the adults present.
- The pre-school creates an environment that encourages good behaviour and staff are confident in their management of this. Children respond well to the consistent praise and encouragement. They readily take part in activities, help to tidy away resources and are well behaved.
- The owner and deputy have built a strong staff group who work well together as a team. They help staff identify their strengths and encourage them to undertake further training to enhance their skills and promote continual improvement.
- Good relationships between staff, children and parents help children develop confidence and supports their learning.

**What needs to be improved?**

- some aspects of paperwork.

**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 1st April 2004 Ofsted have 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
14	Review how the record of accidents is maintained to ensure confidentiality.
14	Review and update the special needs policy to ensure it reflects current guidance and legislation.

## **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.*