



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 205126

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/11/2003
Inspector Name Saida Cummings

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Little Lodge Nursery
Setting Address Swinesherd
Spetchley
Worcester
Worcs

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Jane Jones

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

Little Lodge Nursery opened in 1989. It operates from specific nursery premises, which is an extended building attached to the proprietor's home. The nursery is situated on the southern outskirts of Worcester City and is open to children from all areas.

There are currently 68 children from 2 to 8 years on roll. This includes funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs.

The nursery opens 5 days a week for 48 weeks per year. Sessions are from 08.00 until 17.30.

Seven part time and full time staff work with the children. Over 80% of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ levels 2 and 3. The setting receives support from a mentor teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Little Lodge Nursery provides good care for children.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment. They have access to spacious, well organised areas which are specifically adapted for children's easy access. The premises have been made safe by use of safety items to ensure hazards and risks to children are minimised. Children are well cared for and supported as staff are deployed effectively to ensure high ratios are maintained.

Children's progress and development is encouraged by the use of a stimulating range of activities. These are adapted to ensure children's individual developmental needs are met. Children are able to self-select from a wide range of play equipment, including toys and materials to promote their awareness of diversity.

There are clear guidelines in place concerning sick children, which is shared with parents to ensure they are made fully aware. Children's development and progress is regularly discussed with parents. The staff also provide parents with written information concerning their children's activities on a daily basis.

Children's records are regularly updated, stored securely and a high priority is given

to maintaining confidentiality at all times. There are comprehensive written policies and procedures in place which are implemented by all staff. However, some details are missing from the registration system and the health and safety policy and procedure. There is no documentation in place concerning vehicle and drivers' details and part of the child protection policy and procedures is not defined.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to provide and maintain a visitors' book; to facilitate good hygiene practices for hand washing in the nursery kitchen; to provide one additional toilet; to develop an accident recording system having regard to confidentiality; to ensure that hazardous substances are safely stored; and to ensure that all staff are aware of emergency evacuation procedures.

The provider has provided a visitors' book which is used by all visitors to sign in and out of the premises. The hygiene procedures for staffs' hand washing in the nursery kitchen has been improved by use of liquid soap and individual paper towels. A separate hand basin is always used. An additional children's toilet has been installed. These improvements ensure that health and hygiene procedures are always followed, thereby, reducing risks to the children.

Individual children's accident records are now in place, ensuring confidentiality is maintained at all times. Hazardous items are now stored on high level kitchen shelving, reducing any risks to the children. All staff have been made aware of the emergency evacuation procedures, to include specific responsibilities during an emergency. There are written procedures displayed throughout the nursery and regular emergency evacuation practices are carried out with the children. This ensures all the adults and children are aware of the procedures, thereby, minimising risks to children during an emergency.

What is being done well?

- The provider and staff regularly update their knowledge by attending appropriate training. There are procedures in place concerning the supervision of students and volunteers, which ensures children are protected from persons who are not vetted.
- A comprehensive operational plan is in place and all staff are aware of it. This is used as a working document which is regularly updated to improve practice. There are clear records in place concerning medications and accidents, with an identified staff member taking responsibility and liaising with parents concerning any health issues.
- Children are given the opportunity to investigate and explore ideas. The staff encourage and praise the children ensuring their individual developmental needs and confidence are nurtured. The play equipment is adapted for different use to offer stimulating and fun activities.
- Staff are deployed effectively during indoor and outdoor activities to ensure risks to children are minimised. There are very good strategies and

procedures in place concerning the care of children with special needs. Parents are always consulted and kept fully informed.

What needs to be improved?

- the complaints procedure to include details of how parents can contact Ofsted
- the clarity of the written procedures to follow in the event of an allegation of abuse being made against a staff member or volunteer
- the registration system to clearly identify children's different ages and the adult to child ratios
- the documentation concerning vehicles used to transport children and identified drivers
- the written procedures concerning the requirements to notify Ofsted of any serious injury or death and any notifiable communicable diseases.

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
2	Ensure the registration system clearly shows the adult to child ratios by including children's ages.
6	Ensure records concerning vehicles used to transport children and identified drivers' details are in place.
7	Make sure written procedures are in place concerning the requirements to notify Ofsted of any serious injury or death and any notifiable communicable diseases.

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.