



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 205277

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 26/01/2005
Inspector Name Valerie Fane

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Powick Pre-School
Setting Address Powick Parish Hall
Malvern Road
Powick
Worcestershire
WR2 4RT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Powick Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Powick Pre-School
Address Powick Parish Hall
Malvern Road
Powick
Worcestershire
WR2 4RT

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

Powick Pre-School provides full day care at the village hall in Powick village in Worcestershire. The group uses the main hall, kitchen and toilets and has occasional use of the small hall. It has access to outdoor play using the adjacent primary school playground or the playing field. A maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. The group is open from 09:00 to 15:00 in school term times only.

There are currently 32 children aged from 2 years, 6 months to 5 years on roll. Of these, 25 children receive funding for nursery education. The pre-school currently supports children with special educational needs.

The pre-school employs five staff. Three of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff is working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Powick Pre-School provides good care for children. The children use a recently modernised, large bright hall. They have regular use of the adjacent primary school playground and, in summer, the village playing field. Five staff work with the children, most of whom are well qualified, and they provide a supportive, caring environment. The group has made good use of recently obtained grant money to purchase new toys and equipment. All required policies and procedures are in place, but a few of these require updating or amending.

Staff show very good awareness of children's safety. They have devised careful strategies for escorting children to the toilets and across to the school playground for outdoor play. They carry out regular risk assessments of premises and activities. They keep records of accidents and medication, but do not request a dosage signature from parents. They provide a healthy range of snacks and children bring their own lunch boxes. They use meal times to give children opportunities to develop their social skills.

The supervisor deploys staff effectively to support children's free play while also providing some structured activities linked to the current theme. On some occasions the range of activities available for the children to select is rather limited. Staff assess their key children's progress in all curriculum areas and produce play plans to focus on particular areas of learning. Staff show a positive commitment to

inclusion and several have attended appropriate training. The group supports children with special educational needs well and accesses help from outside agencies when necessary.

Staff obtain detailed information about children at the point of admission, including asking parents to complete a child profile. They provide parents with regular information about group activities through regular information on the notice board, but do not give parents enough information about the progress and development of individual children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the group were asked to ensure procedures are in place for lost or uncollected children; to ensure the complaints procedure includes the name and contact number of the regulator; to ensure perishables are stored safely; to identify named members of staff with responsibility for behaviour management and child protection; to ensure the child protection procedures include procedures to follow in the event of an allegation against a staff member and to ensure necessary checks are carried out on committee members.

Procedures are now in place in the event of a child being lost or uncollected, but these require amending in line with current guidance. The complaints procedure is complete. Perishables are stored in the fridge and children are asked to include an ice pack in their lunch box if necessary. Named members of staff are identified for behaviour management and child protection and this information is made available to parents via the notice board. The child protection policy has been updated, but needs further minor amendments to ensure clarity about who is responsible for investigating an allegation against a member of staff or a volunteer. Necessary checks are now made on committee members.

What is being done well?

- Parents are asked for detailed information about their child at the point of admission. They complete an admission form that includes asking about the child's favourite things and their dislikes or phobias. They also fill in a child profile with information about their child in the areas of personal, social and emotional development, their physical development and their skills in language, literacy and maths.
- Children are given regular opportunities for physical outside play. They have daily use of the adjacent primary school playground. Activities available include the playhouse and the area of logs, where children enjoy developing their balancing skills, well supported by adults.
- The group caters well for children with special educational needs. They produce individual educational plans for children. When necessary they liaise with outside agencies to gain advice on how best to work effectively with the children.
- The staff show very good awareness of safety issues. Children are escorted

to and from the playground using a rope and have a clear understanding of the need to hold on to the rope. Risk assessments are carried out regularly on the premises and equipment and on any outings undertaken.

- Staff make good use of structured activities to develop children's learning. For example, children play games with stepping stones to develop their jumping skills and to practice colour recognition.

What needs to be improved?

- the policies for lost and uncollected children to be amended in line with current guidance
- the procedures for the administration of medicines
- the procedures for informing parents about their children's progress and development
- the range of toys made available to the children at each session.

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

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	Update the policies for lost and uncollected children.
7	Obtain a dosage signature from parents for the medication records.
12	Develop procedures to keep parents informed about their child's progress.

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.