



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305327

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	07/03/2005
Inspector Name	Ron Goldsmith

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	St Michael's Pre-School
Setting Address	St. Michaels Church Devon Road Chester Cheshire CH2 2PX

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of St Michael's P.C.C
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St Michael's P.C.C
Address	St. Michaels Church Devon Road Chester Cheshire CH2 2PX

## 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

St. Michael's Pre-School is situated in St. Michael's Church Hall in Newton, Chester. The playgroup has been open since 1975 and is managed by a committee of church members. Children have use of a large hall, quiet room, toilet facilities and a large enclosed garden. The manager of the group is a qualified teacher and is responsible for the supervision of the playgroup. The staff group is consistent and all staff are well balanced in relation to qualifications and experience. Most children attending live locally, within a 1.5 mile radius and most speak English as their first language. There are two SENCO trained staff and currently no children attending who have been identified as having special needs. The setting is registered to provide sessional care for a maximum of 26 children aged from two and a half to statutory school age and they are funded for 3 and 4 year olds and offer four morning sessions a week, including two afternoon sessions from 09:30 am to 12.00 and 13:15 pm to 15:45 pm.

### How good is the Day Care?

St Michael's Pre-school provides good quality care for children. Good organisation of the provision enables the staff to work closely with the children and to offer good care and support. Staff organise and utilise resources well to the benefit of the children attending. All records and policies required for the safe and efficient management of the nursery are accessible and stored securely. However documentation could be improved to devise a policy for uncollected children and to increase the frequency of planned fire drills.

Staff have a good understanding of policies and procedures relating to children's safety. The environment is welcoming to parents and children. There is a wide range of play materials and resources which cater for children of all ages. Staff have a good understanding of the policies and procedures relating to child protection and special needs. Although staff development is on-going there is no staff appraisal procedure in place to identify areas of improvement with staff.

There is a good quota of experienced and qualified staff and the interaction between children and staff is very good. Children find the activities provided interesting, stimulating and fun. All activities are pre-planned and themes change throughout the year. There is a good balance of free play and adult initiated activity within the setting. Children are able to choose from a wide range of play materials which are easily accessible to them. They have the freedom of movement to alternate from

one activity base to another. Children's behaviour is excellent. They trust staff and they clearly understand the boundaries and know how they are expected to behave within the setting.

Partnership with parents is very good, with opportunities to exchange verbal information on a daily basis. Parents are given information about future and occurring events.

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

At the last inspection the provider agreed to improve safety for children by ensuring a visitor book was maintained, ensuring the procedure for children's hand washing was improved, providing a policy for sick children and a complaints policy which included the role of the regulator. All of these matters have been attended to. In addition the setting were also able to produce evidence of gas safety checks carried out on the premises.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Good quota of qualified and experienced staff, who know the children well and support their welfare and development.
- Children's behaviour is excellent and is supported by staff employing positive strategies and acting as good role models.
- Staff reinforce good behaviour and help children learn to understand the boundaries which aids the settling in process making the environment conducive to effective learning.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- documentation so that an uncollected child policy is devised and the frequency of planned fire drills is increased.
- the appraisal system for staff so that points for improvement can be identified.

#### **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.)**

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	continue to develop a system for staff appraisal.
2	devise and implement a policy for uncollected children.
6	increase the frequency of planned fire drills.

## **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.*