



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY217674

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/08/2004  
Inspector Name Shirley Peart

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Ashfield Nursery & ELC  
Setting Address 259 Stanhope Road  
South Shields  
Tyne and Wear  
NE34 0PA

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Ashfield Nursery and ELC Ltd. 4114682

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Ashfield Nursery and ELC Ltd.  
Address Joicey Road  
Low Fell  
Gateshead  
Tyne and Wear  
NE9 5AT

## 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

Ashfield Nursery & Early Learning Centre was registered in April 2002. It operates from three main rooms in a converted building which is situated in a residential area in South Shields, Tyne and Wear, serving the local and surrounding population.

There are currently 115 children from six weeks to under five years on the register. This includes funded three and four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions and are grouped in rooms/areas according to their age and ability.

The nursery is open from 07:30 until 18:00 six days a week, all year round.

There are twenty two full time and four part time staff who work with the children. Most staff have a level three qualification. The two assistants are currently working towards a level three and the manager and deputies are working towards a level four qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher advisor based in the Local Authority.

### How good is the Day Care?

Ashfield Nursery and Early Learning Centre provides a satisfactory standard of care. The manager and staff continually develop their knowledge by accessing further relevant training and short courses. An appropriate induction procedure is in place for new staff and they feel they are well supported by the manager and senior staff.

Good recording and registration systems are in place which includes clear information on staff and children's attendance and effective recording and monitoring of young children's routines. For example, sleeping, feeding and nappy changing. There are appropriate written procedures and an operational plan in place which are readily available to staff and parents. Written consent from parents is obtained where necessary, but they do not currently sign in acknowledgement for any medication that has been given to their child.

A clean, welcoming environment is provided and the nursery is bright and cheerful. Toys are in good condition and easily accessible to the children. However, there is a limited range of images that reflect diversity. Activities are planned and structured alongside a daily routine and children are given sufficient opportunities to play outdoors. However, there is a lack of opportunities for children over two to access free creative play. Although the key worker system is followed appropriately and

children sometimes work in small groups during the day, the routine and the large grouping of the older children can affect their behaviour, which staff do not currently manage well. Children under two years are given sufficient opportunities to explore their environment. The one to two year age group thoroughly enjoy their action/singing rhymes, they are animated and clearly enjoy themselves.

Staff greet parents warmly and have a friendly manner towards them. They ensure that parents are verbally informed of their child's day and parents of children under two are given a useful written daily diary sheet.

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

Not applicable

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

- Paperwork and recording systems are thorough and comprehensive. Therefore staff ensure that the children's safety and welfare is monitored appropriately.
- A bright, welcoming and cheerful environment is provided. Toys and equipment are also in good condition, age appropriate and easily accessible to the children.
- The individual needs and routines of children under two years are met very well by staff.

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

- the play opportunities for children over two years regarding free access to creative activities.
- the range of images and objects throughout the nursery that reflect non-stereotypical roles, cultural diversity and ability.
- the recording of the administration of medication in relation to parents signatures
- the large grouping of children and set routines so that this does not have a detrimental effect on children's behaviour in the three to under five-year room
- staff's awareness and understanding of effective ways to manage children's behaviour and the implementation of the behaviour management policy and procedures.

#### **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?**

#### **The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
7	Ensure that parents sign in acknowledgement to show they have been informed of any medication given to their child.	23/08/2004

#### **The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
3	Develop the play opportunities for children over two years so that they are able to access creative activities freely.
5	Increase the range of images and objects throughout the nursery that reflect non-stereotypical roles, cultural diversity and ability.
11	Ensure that the large grouping of children and set routines do not have a detrimental effect on children's behaviour in the three to under five-year room.
11	Develop staff's awareness and understanding of effective ways to manage children's behaviour and ensure that the behaviour management policy and procedures are implemented in the three to five-year room.

## **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.*