



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127014

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/12/2004  
Inspector Name Jackie Liffen

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Benenden Pre-School Playgroup  
Setting Address St. Georges Hall  
The Street, Benenden  
Cranbrook  
Kent  
TN17 4DB

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Benenden Pre-School Playgroup 1027577

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Benenden Pre-School Playgroup  
Address St. Georges Hall  
The Street, Benenden  
Cranbrook  
Kent  
TN17 4DB

## 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

Benenden Pre-School Playgroup opened in 1967 and is managed by a parent management committee. It is housed in two inter-connecting rooms on the first floor of a building which is rented from the parish council. There is an outside-grassed area adjacent to the building on two sides, which the group uses for outside play. The group serves the rural villages of Benenden and Iden Green and most children go on to attend the local primary school.

There are currently 26 children on roll. This includes twelve funded three year olds and four funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children with special needs; all children currently speak English.

The group opens five days a week during school term-time. Sessions are from 09:00-12:00. From January and in the summer term, there are additional sessions from 13:00 - 15:45 specifically for children leaving that term.

Four staff work with the children, two of whom hold recognised early years qualifications and two others are undertaking training. Staff are supported by parents who help voluntarily on a rota basis. The setting receives support from an early years advisory teacher. The group is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PLA) and takes part in its accreditation scheme.

### How good is the Day Care?

Benenden Pre-School Playgroup provides good care for children.

The supervisor and deputy are suitably qualified and very experienced, plus plans are in place for all members of staff to undergo appropriate training in the near future. Although the operational plan is sited in more than one place, this works for the group in their present situation. The group is housed at the top of a building and arrangements are in place to ensure the safety and comfort of children and adults. Furniture, equipment and toys help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. Everything is kept clean and is well maintained.

The staff are aware how to meet individual children's needs and are able to keep records and plan future activities. They provide suitable resources which reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability and are able to manage children's behaviour in a way which is sensitive and understood by everyone.

A number of safety strategies are in place and the risk assessment is shortly to be reviewed. The staff promote the good health of children by taking positive steps to prevent the spread of infection, and provide them with nutritious drinks and snacks. Child protection procedures are clearly communicated to parents and staff are willing to up-date their knowledge on a regular basis.

The pre-school have sufficient documentation to ensure the smooth administration of the comprehensive policies and procedures. Staff work closely with parents in order to provide the optimum care for children.

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

Since the last inspection the pre-school have received advice from Kent Early Years and Development Childcare Partnership regarding planning. They have obtained suitable nappy changing facilities; have covered the exposed elements on the fridge; up-dated the complaints procedure and ensured that medical consent forms are available.

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

- Staff are re-taking a first-aid qualification in January 2005 and all of them are either qualified or undertaking qualifications. The group maintains a high ratio of staff to children and staff know children's backgrounds well.
- Staff note children's daily achievements in a record book, and are able to interact well with children by crouching down to their level and asking appropriate and thought-provoking questions. Staff often praise children's achievements and good behaviour.
- The pre-school have a number of written policies and procedures which are communicated to all parents in a form of a handout leaflet. A parent-helper rota system works well and the group's administration is undertaken by a parental committee
- A health and safety poster is clearly displayed and all children wash their hands under running water, drying them on disposable towels, before sitting down to eat. The tables are wiped with anti-bacterial cleanser and specified cleaning cloths are used for different purposes. The supervisor ensures that the children's written health records are checked termly and revised by parents if necessary.
- Children are given nutritious snacks and are able to discuss their preferred fruit or vegetable. They are encouraged to become aware of the differences in society by playing with a selection of toys and activities, and looking at books and posters.

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

- the use of the written risk assessment

- the confidentiality of the accident book
- the written information given to volunteers and committee members
- staff's knowledge of child protection procedures

**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
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.
6	Utilise the risk assessment as part of an operational plan.
7	Seek advice regarding the appropriate use of the accident book.
12	Improve the information given to volunteers and committee members about their roles and responsibilities.

## **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.*