



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113417

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/10/2003
Inspector Name Jacqueline Crawford

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Castle Day Nursery
Setting Address Angola House, Angola Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN14 8DU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Miss Victoria Noyce

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

The Castle Day Nursery opened in December 1991, under the present ownership. The nursery is accommodated on the ground and first floors of a large house, which is situated on the east side of Worthing town centre. It operates from six classrooms, a free play area and a baby unit. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

There are currently 110 children from 2 months to 5 years on roll. This includes 30 funded 3 year olds. There are no funded 4 years olds currently attending. Children attend for a variety of sessions or full days. The nursery offers support to children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery is open 5 days a week all year round, from 8:00 to 18:00.

The majority of the staff are experienced and hold nursery nurse qualifications. New staff members are qualified or are working towards relevant childcare qualifications. A cook and part-time kitchen assistant are employed in the nursery. The nursery receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Castle Day Nursery provides a good standard of care for children.

The nursery is warm and welcoming, with effective planning and daily routines, which help children to feel settled and secure. The staff are trained and hold nursery nurse or recognised child care qualifications. Staff and management work well as a team. New qualified staff are currently being recruited. The staff are guided by a set of policies and procedures, which they implement and understand. Records and documentation are clear and up-to-date.

Positive steps are taken to promote safety throughout the nursery environment. High priority is given to good health and hygiene practice. Staff raise children's awareness of personal care and hygiene practice well. However, the children's toilet facilities do not take into consideration children's privacy. Staff are aware of child protection issues and procedures. Healthy and nutritious snacks and meals are provided, which are freshly prepared and cooked in the nursery, including meals for babies.

The children are happy, sociable and motivated. Staff know the children well,

interaction between them is extremely good in all areas of the nursery. Staff ensure babies have access a range of well planned activities. There is a good balance and range of toys, resources and equipment, which are stimulating, fun and provide sufficient challenge to the children. The outdoor play provision is very good. Staff ensure that all children are valued and their individual needs are met. Consistent behaviour management strategies are used, which are appropriate to the children's understanding and are shared with parents.

There is a good partnership with parents. They are kept well informed about their child's care and progress, through written daily feedback and notices. The policies and procedures for the provision are in place but not easily accessible to parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The planning of activities for babies and children under 3 years, using the stepping stones and six areas of learning as a guide. Staff enable children to develop and learn through stimulating play and imaginative activities.
- Staff know the children well and attend to their individual needs. Interaction between staff and children is extremely good.
- Good equipment and stimulating outdoor play provision, where children can learn and enjoy physical play.
- Healthy and nutritious snacks and meals are provided, with menus displayed in the nursery. Meals are freshly prepared and cooked in the nursery for children of all ages.
- Parents are warmly welcomed into the nursery. They are kept well informed about their child's care and progress, through written daily feed back sheets and development records.

What needs to be improved?

- the children's side by side toilet facilities;
- the information about the provision and policies and procedures, to be made more accessible to parents;
- the address and telephone number of the regulator on the complaints procedure.

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
4	Consider installing divisions between children's toilets, to ensure their privacy is respected.
12	Ensure the policies and procedures are made available to parents.
12	Include the contact details of the regulator on the complaints procedure.

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.