



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 147522

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 31/10/2003
Inspector Name Deborah Wilkinson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Cross Keys Activities
Setting Address Christ College School
East End Road
East Finchley
London
N2 0SE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name X Keys Ltd 3880943

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name X Keys Ltd
Address 48 Fitzalan Road
Finchley
London
N3 3PE

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

Cross Keys an established Holiday Play scheme is part of Cross Keys UK, which runs other holiday provision in the country.

The group operates from Christ's College Secondary School in East End Road Finchley which is located between East Finchley and Finchley Central. They have sole use of the following rooms during the times of operation; dining hall, drama room, art room, music room, sports hall and gym. Outside the tennis courts and sports field are available.

The group operates at Easter, half terms, summer holidays and sometimes during the Christmas break with sessions running from 09:00 - 16:00.

Some members of the staff team have early years qualifications, while others have various sports, drama and art qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Cross Keys Holiday Play scheme provides good quality care for children.

The group focuses on art and drama with the children who attend working towards an end of scheme production. There are also opportunities for them to participate in sports activities and use the outdoor facilities. The Apprentices group is for the younger children and while they contribute to the show, they also have a wider selection of age appropriate activities and equipment in their base room.

The premises used is a large secondary school with many of the areas out of bounds to play scheme children, so staff are vigilant in their supervision. Children's art work is displayed in the reception area. There is a comprehensive ongoing system for completing and recording risk assessments, however the temperature of the hot water in the cloakrooms used by the children is higher than the recommended maximum.

The company has a pool of staff it can draw on and many return each year to work at the scheme and prior to operation staff attend the induction programme. There are good operational systems in place however the current manager does not have a child care qualification and the requirement for 50% of staff to be appropriately qualified is not always met.

Adults have good relationships with children, they talk and sing with them supporting them in the activities. They lead by example using positive language and encouraging and praising the children who in turn are confident and happy. Staff understand their roles and are able to describe their responsibilities in given situations.

Parents are welcomed especially on the last day when they are invited to the show. Staff are always available to talk to them about their children, the activities done and any issues that might have arisen during the day. Copies of the policies, procedures and National Standards are available in the registration area.

Comprehensive record keeping systems are in place.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The requirement to ensure the premises are adequately cleaned has been met and staff are now aware of their responsibilities should they be concerned about a child's welfare.

What is being done well?

- There is a good understanding of health and safety issues with comprehensive risk assessments completed.
- Adults have good relationships with the children and are actively involved with them encouraging and supporting them in the activities.
- Staff understand their role and responsibilities and are always available to speak to parents.
- The programme is structured to give opportunities for indoor and outdoor play.
- Appropriate resources are provided to support activities.
- Children are happy and confident and participate well in the programme.
- Information about the scheme and the Cross Keys organisation is readily available for parents.

What needs to be improved?

- The safety with regard to the hot water
- The qualifications of the manager and staff.

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	Develop an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met
6	Complete a risk assessment of the hot water in the cloakrooms used by the children.

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.