



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 161033

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/03/2004
Inspector Name Alison Large

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Sessional Day Care, Creche Day Care
Setting Name Start Point Sholing
Setting Address Wood Close
Sholing
Southampton
Hampshire
SO19 0SG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Start Point Sholing

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Start Point Sholing
Address Wood Close
Southampton
Hampshire
SO19 0SG

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

Start Point Sholing opened in 2000. There are three types of provision within the centre, a full day care nursery, a sessional nursery, and a crèche which is run alongside the centre's training provision. It is situated in the Sholing area of Southampton, and serves the local and wider area. The centre is a training facility for early years workers, and also the play services toy library is based within the building. The centre is advised by a management group and overseen by the Southampton Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

The sessional nursery opened in Sept 2000 as one of the first elements of provision within this Early Years Centre, there are currently 52 children on roll, and they are all funded three and four year olds. The sessional provision for 3 and 4yr olds is term time only, and the children attend for a variety of sessions, it is part of Southampton City Councils Inclusion Project and supports a number of special needs children. The full day-care nursery is an integral part of the EYC, it's the first Southampton City Council Day Nursery. There are currently 37 children on roll, this includes 4 funded 3 yr olds, and 14 funded 4 yr olds and children attend for a variety of sessions.

The sessional day-care opens five days a week during school term times, and sessions are from 09:15 until 11:45, and 13:00 until 15:30. The day nursery opens five days a week all year round, from 08:00 until 18:00 Mon. to Thurs. and 08:00 until 16:00 on Fridays.

Eight staff work in the Day nursery, six staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level III. Two staff members are currently working toward a recognised early years qualification. Six staff work in the sessional nursery, all have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Start Point Sholing provides good quality care overall for children under eight years.

There are procedures in place to ensure staff have a consistent approach to their work, including an induction process and regular staff meetings, and the centre provides a high quality of practice in each room. The nursery, sessional nursery and crèche offer a warm and welcoming environment, with adequate play space both

indoors and out, and staff ensure the children are well cared for. Most documentation and procedures are in place. However some additions are needed.

All three provisions welcome children with special needs, and staff ensure their individual needs are met. Staff have a good awareness of safety both inside and out, to ensure the children are kept safe at all times, and safety assessments are made by staff daily. The children are offered a variety of healthy and nutritious food, and the children are able to access regular drinks, staff are proactive in encouraging good health and hygiene practices in the groups.

In the day nursery children have routines for playing, eating and sleeping, and the babies are given opportunities to sleep outside. The sessional nursery and the day nursery have access to a large outdoor play area, which helps the children develop their physical skills, and indoors the children are offered a wide variety of activities which are fun and stimulating. In the sessional day care, the children make use of a sensory room which provides a calming and safe area for the children. All the groups have access to an excellent range of toys and equipment, and children are encouraged to be independent and make choices.

Staff are consistent in promoting positive behaviour management, and praise and encourage the children.

There is a good relationship with parents in the groups, and staff make home visits to the children before they start in the sessional nursery. Parents are kept fully informed, and information is shared with them daily.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The sessional day nursery is organised to encourage children's independence, children are given opportunities to solve problems and be independent learners. In the nursery the children are secure in their routines, and the babies are given opportunities to sleep in the fresh air. There is a good range of equipment provided, and staff plan a variety of fun activities for the children.
- Staff make good use of the space provided, children are able to make choices when playing outside and take full advantage of the variety of play areas. The sensory room provides an excellent calming and safe area for the children, and good use is made of the role play areas, staff interact well with the children asking questions to extend their learning..
- All the groups are welcoming towards receiving children with special needs, and staff are aware of their individual needs, and promote equality and diversity. Staff have a consistent approach to behaviour management, and praise and encourage positive behaviour.

- The staff encourage good hygiene practices with the children, and have clear and concise procedures for dealing with health issues. Staff have a good awareness of safety both inside and outside, to ensure the children are kept safe.
- The day nursery and sessional day nursery have a good relationship with parents, and parents are made to feel welcome, and staff share information with them through newsletters and a key worker system, home visits are made by staff prior to the child starting in the group. Staff hold regular meetings, and have a sound induction process for new staff.

What needs to be improved?

- non collection of child procedure
- the countersigning of recorded accidents by parents
- signed acknowledgement from parents following the administration of medication

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	Expand the non collection of child procedure to include the procedure to be followed if a child is uncollected.
7	Ensure all accidents have been countersigned by the parent, (sessional day care)
7	Keep a written record, signed by parents, of medication given to 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.