



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 139959

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 11/06/2003
Inspector Name Rebecca Elizabeth Khabbazi

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name St Alban's Pre-School
Setting Address St. Albans Church
273 Gander Green Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM3 9GQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Susan Tinker

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

St Albans Pre-school operates from St Albans Church Hall in Sutton. The preschool serves the local area.

There are currently 68 children from two to under five years on the roll. This includes funded three and four year olds. There are not any children attending with special needs or English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week with sessions from 9:00 - 12:00 from Monday to Friday and 12:15 - 2:45 from Tuesday to Friday during term time, and 9:00 - 12:00 during half-terms and summer holidays.

Eight members of staff work with the children, three of whom have early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

St Alban's playgroup provides good quality care overall for children aged two to five years.

The staff spend time making sure that the premises are bright and welcoming to children and organise space to make sure their needs are met. Children feel secure and settled due to the consistent routine. Most of the relevant policies and procedures are in place, although some could include more detail.

Pre-school staff have a good awareness of safety issues. They make sure effective procedures are in place for reducing hazards on the premises so that children can play safely. Children are encouraged to learn about good hygiene practices through the daily routine.

The pre-school plans daily activities well with a good variety of play resources that provide good learning and play opportunities. Staff interaction with children is positive and helps develop good relationships. Staff manage children's behaviour consistently and children behave well.

Staff are friendly and welcoming to parents. They keep them informed about the pre-school and the activities provided through the notice board and parents are able to talk to their child's key worker about their child's progress regularly.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the pre-school agreed to make sure that books were appropriate for the ages of the children and reflected positive images of culture, gender and disability, ensure electrical sockets in the second hall were covered, ensure drains were made safe or inaccessible and make sure a written record of administered medication was maintained. They also agreed to have a designated person responsible for dealing with child protection issues and to make sure they had a written special needs statement and that staff were familiar with the Code of Practice. The preschool has now updated their books. They have covered electrical sockets in the second hall and have covered the drain in the garden. A book is available to record any medicine administered. There is a member of staff designed to deal with child protection issues who has attended training. A written special needs statement has been devised and some staff members have attended training around the Code of Practice.

What is being done well?

- The pre-school offers a wide range of interesting activities for children that support their learning in all areas of development. They plan activities well to reflect the weekly theme. Children participate enthusiastically in activities (Standard 3)
- The children have access to a good selection of play materials and resources that are used to create a stimulating environment
- (Standard 5)
- Staff give high priority to ensuring children's safety. Risks are highlighted and action taken so that children can play safely (Standard 6).
- Staff interaction with the children is very good. They know the children well and have a good understanding of their individual needs (Standard 3)
- Children respond well to the consistent pre-school routine. They settle quickly, join in with the familiar activities and behave well (Standard 2 and 11)

What needs to be improved?

- documentation, by updating the operational plan, and the child protection and behaviour management policies (Standards 2, 11 and 13)
- record keeping, by developing current systems for recording attendance and accidents
- (Standards 2, 7 and 14)
- partnership with parents, by making sure parents are informed about child protection procedures (Standard 13)

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	update operational plan to include written details of how staff are deployed, and how and what activities are provided
2	update attendance records so that times of arrival and departure outside of usual session times are recorded
7	make sure records of accidents are sufficiently detailed
13	update child protection policy to include procedures to be followed in the event that an allegation is made against a member of staff
13	put arrangements in place to make sure child protection procedures are shared with parents before a child starts

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.