



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 509383

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 07/01/2005
Inspector Name Teresa Marie Taylor

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Church of the Ascension Playgroup
Setting Address Chatterton Hall
School Road, Hall Green
BIRMINGHAM
WEST MIDLANDS
B28 8JQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Church of the Ascension Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Church of the Ascension Playgroup
Address Chatterton Hall
School Road
Hall Green
Birmingham
B28 8JQ

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 Church of the Ascension playgroup is run by a committee and has been running for over 30 years and was formally registered in 1993. It operates from the church hall at the rear of the Church of the Ascension in the Hall Green area of Birmingham. A maximum of 25 children may attend at any one time. The playgroup is open from 09:30 hrs to 12:00 hrs on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 12:30 hrs to 15:00 hrs on Wednesday, term time only. There is a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently 32 children aged from 2 to under 5 years on roll. Of these 18 children receive funding for nursery education. The playgroup support children with special needs and those for whom English is an additional language.

The playgroup employs four staff. Three hold appropriate early years qualifications and the fourth staff member is working towards a qualification. Staff are supported by parents via a parents rota.

How good is the Day Care?

The Church of The Ascension playgroup provides good care for children. Staff provide a welcome environment for both children and parents. Children are settled and well occupied throughout the sessions.

There is a good range of toys and equipment available for the children. Storage is outside of the hall but, staff ensure that activities are changed regularly and that children have access to as wide a selection as possible. Children are encouraged to make their own decisions regarding play and these are well supported by the staff. Children are provided with both free choice activities and planned activities. The outside area is used as often as the weather allows and the group receive regular visits from staff from the 'Urban Explorer' group. This has provided staff and children with valuable experiences and knowledge. Staff/child interaction is very good. Staff are aware at all times of the children and are consistent in their handling. Language and conversation are actively encouraged and staff knowledge of children's individual needs is good.

Health and safety issues require some attention but the problems with the water temperature should be solved when the new boiler is fitted. The risk assessment needs to be extended and checks undertaken recorded. The toilets are attached to

the main room and staff encourage children to develop independence. Children are given a choice of water or milk to drink and a biscuit during the session. Staff are aware of dietary needs and all information from parents is recorded.

There are very good relationships with parents and parental comments included: very well organised, staff very competent and friendly, a safe and secure environment and, good lines of communication. All policies are freely available to parents and staff ensure that time is available for parents to talk at every session. Most documentation is accurate and up to date except procedures for uncollected children and, time recording on the register.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Both actions from the last inspection have been completed. These were; devise and implement a policy for ill or infectious children and share this with parents, this is in place and ensure that children have an appropriate range of resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice, equipment and books have been purchased and there is a good range of dressing up clothes.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide a wide range of play activities and children are encouraged to make their own decisions regarding play. Staff support children's choices well and language and conversation are good.
- Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment for both children and parents where children are settled, at ease and well occupied. Parents are welcome at any time and there is an active parents rota.
- Staff work well as a team and provide good role models. They are consistent and caring in their approach to the children and children's behaviour is good.
- There are good relationships with parents and they expressed their satisfaction with the group with comments that included; very well organised, staff very competent and friendly, a safe and secure environment and, good lines of communication.

What needs to be improved?

- the temperature of the water for hand washing and, the content and recording of the risk assessment
- the procedures for uncollected children
- the recording of times on the register.

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	Ensure the register shows times of arrival and actual departure times for children and staff.
2	Include procedures for uncollected children on the lost children policy.
6	Ensure the hot water for hand washing is maintained at a suitable temperature.
6	Extend the risk assessment and record checks undertaken.

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.