



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY277744

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 03/02/2005
Inspector Name Janet Ashcroft

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Creche Day Care
Setting Name Sure Start Main Centre
Setting Address Hawksworth
Glascote Heath
Tamworth
Staffordshire
B77 2HH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Pre-School Learning Alliance 4539003 4539003 1096526

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Pre-School Learning Alliance 4539003
Address Haling Dene Centre
Cannock Road, Penkridge
Stafford
Staffordshire
ST19 5DT

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 Sure Start Main Centre Crèche opened in 2004. It operates from the nursery crèche room in the Sure Start building in Glascote, Tamworth and serves families from the local community. The children have access to a secure outdoor play area.

The Crèche supports the Sure Start training programme of activities for parents, and children attend for a variety of sessions.

There are currently 86 children on roll, aged from birth to under five years. Opening days and times vary according to the training in progress. Sessions usually run between 2-4 hour periods. The setting supports children with special needs.

There are six full time staff who work with the children. Five have relevant early years qualifications to level three or above, the other staff member is working towards a level three qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

The Sure Start Main Centre Crèche provides good care for the children. The staff are well qualified and work together effectively to provide a warm, welcoming and stimulating environment where children feel safe and secure and where individual needs are competently met. Space is used creatively to accommodate a broad, balanced range of toys and equipment; these are freely accessible and promote learning in all areas. Full use is made of the outdoor area for physical play and exploration. Record keeping is mostly satisfactory.

The staff have a high level of awareness of all risks to children's safety and have taken comprehensive steps to ensure that the physical environment is safe and secure. They are active in encouraging the children's self-help skills with regard to personal hygiene. Snacks are nutritious and snack time is a group experience, where all children are engaged in conversation and older children are encouraged to discuss and reflect upon their activities. The children are able to access drinks freely and independently. The staff have a good knowledge of child protection procedures and the setting supports children with special needs. A moderate range of resources promotes positive images however the balance is presently uneven, with disability and gender not fully represented.

The staff draw upon relevant early years' curricula to plan and provide a range of

practical activities and experiences to help the children make progress in all areas of development. Expectations of behaviour are age appropriate and staff have a positive and consistent approach to behaviour management, which takes account of the children's level of understanding. Socially acceptable behaviour is actively promoted and the children are frequently praised for effort and achievement.

The staff work in partnership with parents and liaise frequently with them, using a variety of methods to exchange regular information with regard to the setting and the children's activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable, as this is the first inspection.

What is being done well?

- The staff draw upon relevant early years' curricula to plan and provide a range of practical activities and experiences to help the children make progress in all areas of development.
- The environment is extremely warm and welcoming, with children's creative work attractively displayed, enhancing self-esteem and a sense of belonging.
- The setting provides a broad and balanced range of toys and equipment, which meets the needs of all the children and which promotes learning in all areas.
- The staff have a high level of awareness of risks to children's safety and have taken comprehensive precautions to reduce hazards and to make the setting safe.
- Staff have a consistent and positive approach to behaviour management, which takes account of the children's level of understanding and maturity. Appropriate behaviour is valued and encouraged and the children are praised frequently for effort and achievement.

What needs to be improved?

- the range of resources to promote positive images, especially of gender and disability
- the procedure to ensure that registration arrangements show when staff and children are present.

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
9	Continue to develop the range of resources to promote positive images, especially of gender and disability.
14	Ensure that registration arrangements show when staff and children are present.

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.