



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 131613

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/12/2003
Inspector Name Helen Mary Ball

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Sunshine Pre-School and Day Nursery
Setting Address 36 Thornbury Avenue
Southampton
Hampshire
SO15 5BR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Ann Chennells

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

Sunshine Day Nursery opened in 1991. It operates from six rooms in a detached house in the Shirley area of Southampton. The nursery serves both the local and wider community.

There are currently 38 children on roll from 0 to 5 years. This includes 11 funded 3 year-olds and 3 funded 4 year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The setting currently supports children with special educational needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week all year round. Sessions are from 08.00 until 18.00.

Six staff work with children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications and two staff are currently working towards further qualifications. The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

The nursery provides satisfactory care for children.

Staff have relevant childcare qualifications and the nursery operates a key worker system enabling children to receive continuity of care. Staff work well together as a team and the nursery is secure and welcoming, offering a relaxed atmosphere enabling children to settle quickly. The nursery does, however, need to ensure that ratios are maintained, with particular regard to the baby rooms. There is an adequate range of toys and equipment, although the children would benefit from a wider range of accessible books and role play equipment. All relevant paperwork is in place.

Access to the nursery is monitored and staff have an awareness of safety issues. The nursery does need to ensure, however, that all staff are confident in instigating fire evacuation procedures. The nursery is able to accommodate children with special dietary requirements and has a positive attitude to children with special educational needs. Staff encourage good hygiene routines and toys are clean and well maintained. The nursery owner has a sound understanding of child protection issues.

Children are able to choose their free-play activities. Children are friendly and confident and enjoy talking about what they are doing. Staff use appropriate language to extend children's learning. There is excellent interaction between staff and children. Some younger children's activities, however, are not age-appropriate and this restricts their ability to develop their independence in some areas. Staff use excellent behaviour management techniques and children respond positively to this approach.

The nursery has good relationships with parents and information is exchanged both verbally and in writing on a regular basis.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, actions were raised requiring parents to countersign medication and accident records, and for the nursery to obtain parental consent for emergency treatment. These actions have been addressed.

What is being done well?

- The nursery has effective procedures for appointing and vetting staff, and all staff have relevant childcare qualifications. Staff are committed to updating their training in a range of childcare issues. They work well as a team, and the key worker system ensures that children receive continuity of care. The nursery owner has a sound understanding of child protection procedures.
- Access to the nursery is closely monitored. The environment is welcoming with colourful displays of children's work on the walls, and staff have an adequate awareness of safety issues. The nursery has a relaxed family atmosphere which creates a calm environment, enabling children to settle quickly. The garden has a variety of surfaces, making it possible for children to play outside all year round.
- Staff interaction with children is excellent and their friendly and approachable manner encourages children to feel confident and enjoy discussing what they are doing. Staff use appropriate language to extend children's vocabulary and learning and there is an adequate range of toys and equipment. Staff are excellent role models and their positive behaviour management techniques are used effectively.
- Staff promote good hygiene routines and there is a rota for ensuring toys and equipment are clean and well maintained. Children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and staff ensure that children understand the reason for this. The nursery is able to accommodate children with special educational needs and who have special dietary requirements.
- The nursery has an effective partnership with parents. The nursery provides comprehensive written records for parents as well as newsletters. Staff are approachable and communicate well with parents.

What needs to be improved?

- ratios, with particular regard to the baby rooms
- activities that allow children to develop their independence
- range of role play equipment to enhance children's imaginative play
- range of books
- procedure for instigating fire evacuation procedures.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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 ratios are maintained at all times, with particular regard to the baby rooms.
3	Ensure that activities are age-appropriate to allow children to develop their independence.
5	Provide a suitable range of role play equipment to enhance children's imaginative play.
5	Increase the range of accessible books.
6	Ensure that procedure for instigating a fire drill is understood by all staff.

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.