



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 312579

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/01/2005  
Inspector Name Sharon Greener

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care, Out of School Day Care  
Setting Name Mortimer Out Of School Care & Playgroup  
Setting Address Mortimer Community Association  
Reading Road  
South Shields  
Tyne and Wear  
NE33 4UG

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Mortimer Out of School Care and Playgroup

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Mortimer Out of School Care and Playgroup  
Address Mortimer Community Association  
Reading Road  
South Shields  
Tyne and Wear  
NE33 4UG

## 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

Mortimer Out of School Club and Playgroup opened in 1993 and operates from three rooms located within the Mortimer Road Community Centre. The Centre is situated within the grounds of the Mortimer Secondary School, in a residential area of South Shields. A maximum of 24 children may attend the playgroup, and a maximum of 100 children may attend the out of school hours group, at any one time. The out of school hours group is open 50 weeks per year, Monday to Friday, 08.00 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 18.00 term time, and 08.00 to 18.00 during school holidays. The playgroup is open each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 09.05 to 11.30, term time only. The children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 22 children aged from two and a half to under five years on roll at the playgroup. Children come from a wide catchment area. The playgroup currently supports one child who speaks English as an additional language.

The playgroup employs three staff. All staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

### How good is the Day Care?

Mortimer Road Playgroup provides satisfactory care for children. The premises are clean and adequately maintained. Children are able to self select from those resources provided. Staff have opportunities to access relevant training. The required documentation is in place, the majority of which is well presented.

Staff maintain appropriate hygiene standards and encourage children to adopt good personal hygiene practices. Staff are aware of and responsive to potential hazards and carry out regular risk assessments. Staff acknowledge the need to promote healthy eating. Their knowledge and understanding of equal opportunity and child protection is sufficient. They have a good grasp of special needs issues and have all completed relevant training.

Children have access to age appropriate learning experiences and resources. However, not all aspects of development and learning are supported during each session, and this needs to be addressed accordingly. Staff give priority to nurturing children's self esteem, confidence and social skills. Children with special needs are well supported. Staff manage children's behaviour in a very positive manner, applying suitable tactics to which children respond well.

Effective relationships are built with parents and carers. They have access to key policies and procedures and other general information contained in a booklet. They are kept informed of their child's progress, general events, and may have access to their child's personal records. A positive verbal response was received from parents and carers about the service provided.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

At the last inspection actions were given relating to policies and procedures and record keeping. The majority of which have been addressed and have a positive impact on the organisation and operation of the playgroup, and care of the children. An operational plan is in place, which contains the required policies and procedures. A separate statement is in place regarding the action to be taken should an allegation of abuse be made against a staff member. However, this should be an integral part of the child protection policy and procedure. A record of all visitors to the playgroup is in place.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Staff build good relationships with the children and manage children's behaviour in a very effective manner. They recognise the importance of acknowledging and praising good behaviour. Children respond very positively to staff and are well behaved.
- Staff monitor and record details of children's individual development and progress on a regular basis and share this information with parents and carers.
- All staff have completed training in respect of special needs and show a good knowledge and understanding in the area.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the variety of activities and resources provided for children during each session, to ensure all aspects of play and learning are sufficiently addressed (for example books, mark making and imaginative role play)
- the child protection policy and procedure, to include details of the action which would be taken should an allegation of abuse be made against a member of staff (currently in a separate statement, which was not easily located)
- the consistency of information held on file, relating to proof of staff's childcare qualifications.

**PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)**

There are no complaints to report

### **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
1	Copy of all staff's child care qualifications should be kept available for inspection.
3	Ensure activities and resources which address all aspects of development and learning are made available to children during each session, e.g. imaginative role play, books and mark making.
13	Include within the child protection policy and procedure, details of the action which would be taken, should an allegation of abuse be made against a staff member.

## **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.*