



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 311270

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/08/2004
Inspector Name Shazaad Arshad

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Helen Howes Private Day Nursery
Setting Address 559-565 Bradford Road
Birkenshaw
Bradford
West Yorkshire
BD11 2AQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Ms Helen Elizabeth Howes

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

Helen Howes Private Day Nursery has been established since 1989. The nursery is located in the lower ground floor at the rear of the Co-op building on the main shopping street of Birkenshaw village. The nursery offers sessional and full day care from Monday to Friday all year round and children attend on a full or part-time basis. It is open from 07:30 until 18:00.

The nursery serves the local and surrounding areas. The proprietor is responsible for the management of the setting and an officer in charge is accountable for the day to day organisation. There are 14 staff members of which 11 staff members hold a relevant childcare qualification at NVQ level 111 or equivalent.

There are four playrooms with separate external office, an internal office, kitchen, hallway's, staff room and enclosed outdoor play area. Children are accommodated according to age. Nursery room one is used for children aged three to five years and nursery two for children aged up to two years. The areas have their own bathrooms and staff toilet facilities.

They are currently caring for 78 children aged under five years, of whom 13 three-year olds are in receipt of nursery funding. The nursery supports children with special need's and there are no children attending with English as an additional language.

The setting receives support from the local authority. The nursery is a member of the National Day Nurseries Association and is accredited with the Kirklees Early Quality Assurance scheme.

How good is the Day Care?

Helen Howes Private Day Nursery provides good care for children. The environment is very welcoming and friendly. The children respond well to the caring approach of the staff and are very happy and settled. The staff work very well together, they are committed, enthusiastic and organised. They make excellent use of the space and have developed everyday routines the children are familiar with. The nursery management have set high standards for staff and there are good opportunities for staff to have input through regular staff meetings and supervision arrangements. There are comprehensive systems in place to monitor the safety of the children and there are clear written policies and procedures for staff to follow. The nursery is

clean and well maintained. Staff are very conscious of promoting hygiene and follow good practices themselves and encourage children's hygiene as part of the daily routine.

The staff are very active in directly involving themselves in the children's play, supporting and encouraging their development and meeting their individual needs. The rapport with the children ensures that there are very good relationships with the children being established. The extensive range of resources and activities are well utilised to provide the children an interesting, stimulating and rewarding experience. As a minor point resources need extending to include more positive images of other cultures and disability. Furthermore staff should consider interaction with children at their level over the busy lunchtime period. The planning systems and use of children's profiles ensure staff understand the children's individual needs and consequently the children play exceptionally well together and their behaviour is good.

Relationships with parents are good. They receive detailed information packs with all necessary policies and procedures. Most documentation is very organised, although medication records are insufficient.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the nursery was asked to develop staff's knowledge and understanding of care for under three's. The staff in the baby rooms have attended numerous courses including birth to three matters and heuristic play. The staff unable to attend have been able to benefit from the cascaded training and new practices. The other consideration was around recording arrival and departure times of children and visitors. This has been addressed as there is a visitors book requesting this information and the register's include the required information. Meeting these requirements ensure the children's development and safety needs are addressed.

What is being done well?

- Children's relationships with each other are excellent, they play very well together, share, take turns and co-operate during play. They respond very well to praise and guidance and their behaviour is good.
- Staff interact very well with each other and this benefits the children. They know the children very well and use this knowledge to utilise resources to plan and effectively provide experiences that meet the individual needs of the children.
- Safety of children is given paramount consideration and the systems adopted ensure the environment is safe for children to learn and play. This is supported through clear written documentation and regular risk assessment checks.
- The nursery management are committed to providing a quality service and are part of the Early Years Quality Scheme. The management are directly

involved with the nursery and monitor the standards within the nursery, through ongoing supervision, regular reviews and staff meetings. The management open door policy for staff and parents works very well and they are made to feel part of the team.

- Staff interaction with the children is helped by the fact there has been consistency in the staffing over the last few years. The large staff team allow for ratios to be very well maintained and for staff to concentrate on their core work. The relationships with children have been continual and the children are very settled. Staff use their questioning skills to support and encourage children's development.
- The opportunities for children to freely access water from the cooler machine helps promote their independence and allows free access to drinking water. The commitment and understanding to providing healthy, balanced and nutritional foods to children throughout the day.
- The sharing of information with parents and use of daily diaries for under two year old's. Detailed development profiles and spontaneous records monitor children's progression.

What needs to be improved?

- the interaction of staff with children over the lunchtime period in the three to five room
- the range of activities and resources on display that promote multi-culture and disability
- the medication records in relation to obtaining parental acknowledgements of the entries.

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
7	Ensure medication records are completed in full detail.
8	Develop practices encouraging staff and child socialisation during lunch periods.
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources on display that promote multi-culture and dsability.

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.