



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 321549

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 26/11/2004
Inspector Name Jackie Phillips

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Wheldrake Playgroup
Setting Address Wheldrake Village Hall
Broad Highway, Wheldrake
York
North Yorkshire
YO19 6BE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Wheldrake Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Wheldrake Playgroup
Address Wheldrake Village Hall
Broad Highway, Wheldrake
York
North Yorkshire
YO19 6BE

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

Wheldrake Pre-School Playgroup is a committee run group and first registered to provide sessional care in October 1992. It operates from two rooms within the village hall in Wheldrake, which is located approximately 8 miles from the City of York. The building is on one level, with access to toilet and kitchen facilities and an outdoor play area. The group serves the local community and surrounding areas.

The playgroup operates during term time only and is open on Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings from 09:15 to 11:45 and Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 12:45 to 15:15. The Wednesday afternoon session is available for those children starting school the following year and aims especially to prepare children for that experience. They offer care to a maximum of 30 children, aged between two and five years at each session. There are currently 41 children on roll including 33 three and four-year-olds in receipt of nursery education funding. Children attend a variety of sessions each week. There are currently no children attending with special educational needs or who use English as an additional language, however systems are in place to support these needs.

Eight staff work with the children overall. Two hold a recognised childcare qualification and three staff members are working towards achieving qualified status. Three members of staff are unqualified but have many years experience of working with children. Parents also attend sessions to assist as volunteer helpers. The group receives support from the Local Authority and the Pre School Learning Alliance (PLA).

How good is the Day Care?

Wheldrake Playgroup provides good quality care for young children, and is meeting the 14 National Standards well. A stimulating environment is provided for children aged under five years. Appropriate areas are created for specific play and learning opportunities, and include areas for children to practice and develop their physical skills. The setting is well prepared prior to children's arrival and looks interesting and attractive. Children are very well supervised throughout the session.

Most systems to provide a safe environment are in place, however the recording of medicines administered to children lacks sufficient detail and a procedure to follow for the safe conduct of outings is yet to be established. Children are able to access drinks as they wish, with a healthy snack provided mid session. The setting offers

good support and inclusion for children with special or additional needs, and staff promote positive behaviour management very well. The team have an understanding of child protection procedures, and meet children's individual needs effectively.

There is an excellent range of good quality toys, books and equipment provided, that includes materials to promote children's understanding of cultural diversity. A range of equipment and resources, for example those for balancing, encourages children's physical skills. Activities are well prepared and presented to children, and a thematic approach to play and learning is in place and supports the planning process. Adults interact to a high level with children, encouraging quality language development and fostering secure relationships.

An effective partnership with parents is clearly promoted, through regular verbal feedback, written records and clear information relating to the operation of the setting. Newsletters are also provided to keep parents fully informed and support a positive relationship. Documentation is very well presented and organised and is easily accessed by parents and staff.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the staff have demonstrated effectively a commitment to training, to ensure that minimum qualifications are met with 50% of staff qualified to level 2 or above. This is ongoing. The group also ensure that children of volunteers are included in the numbers by reducing the overall maximum of registered numbers of children, to maintain appropriate staff to child ratios and meet group size regulations, ensuring children's safety is paramount.

What is being done well?

- A stimulating and interesting environment is created for young children, that enables them to feel safe and secure within their surroundings. Care is taken to display children's work within the limitations of the group operating from a shared building. The play room is well prepared and presented prior to children's arrival, and adults effectively create specific areas for focused play opportunities. Good attention is paid to provide children with a range of interesting activities that fully supports their development needs and provides good quality early learning experiences.
- The adults of the setting work directly with the children and engage in quality conversations to improve and develop children's language and vocabulary skills. Secure relationships and positive interaction are evident and assist the learning process. Staff meet children's individual needs very well. Supervision is of a high level and the quality activities provided ensure children are well occupied and engaged in a range of learning opportunities that fully supports their pre school education.
- A positive partnership with parents is established by a range of techniques to exchange information regarding the care and progression of the children. The policies and procedures relating to the operation of the setting are accessed

by parents. Newsletters and fund raising events support the relationship between parents and carers, and daily verbal communication ensures that both parties are kept well informed. The established team support each other well, and their skills, experience and abilities ensure a high service level and quality standards of care for young children.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedure to follow for the safe conduct of outings
- the attention to gain a signature from parents to acknowledge the entry of medicines administered to children

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

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
6	Devise and implement a procedure to follow for the safe conduct of outings.
7	Ensure that parents sign the record book to acknowledge the entry of medicines administered to children.

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.