



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 103836

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/05/2004
Inspector Name Linda Margaret Nicholls

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Rochester Kindergarten
Setting Address St John Fisher Church Hall
Maidstone Road
Rochester
Kent
ME1 3EN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Lindsay Ann McLaughlan

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

Rochester Kindergarten opened in 1987. It operates from one room and a small area adjacent to the garden entrance in a church hall in Rochester. The Kindergarten serves the local area.

There are currently 41 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 15 funded 3-year-olds and 16 funded 4-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports 2 children with special needs and 1 child who speaks English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09.00 to 11.45 and 12.45 to 15.15.

Six staff work with the children during the morning session and four staff in the afternoon. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. Two staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification, and one staff member has an NVQ level 2 and is working towards her NVQ level 3. The setting receives support from the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Rochester Kindergarten provides satisfactory care for children.

Record keeping and documents are well presented. Registration and insurance certificate's are displayed, although a full notice board prevents direct sight of the documents. Staff qualifications exceed the minimum standards and training needs are monitored, although parents are unaware of planning details for the updating of skills and knowledge. The register does not record the times children are present. The premises are well maintained, clean and secure although use of an area adjacent to the toilets and garden is necessary if a full role of 30 children are present. There is a range of good quality toys and equipment with an increasing variety of positive images of cultural and physical diversity.

The safety and care of the children is good. Appropriate safety precautions are in place and record keeping is up to date. Information is held in confidence and family requirements are sought and met. Limited space in the main room ensures all children are observed directly by staff. A basic range of snacks and drinks are

offered. Children sit at tables talking sociably with their friends and adults. Children are polite and respect each other's differences, those with additional needs are included in all aspects of the group's daily routine. Staff are aware to record incidents which may require action or raise concerns.

The range and quality of the activities and their effect on children's well being, development and learning is varied and stimulating. Group plans are clearly written so that staff can be well prepared for each session and individual learning plans are in place for children above the age of 3 years. Activities are inclusive for all children who attend although some staff are less confident than others in allowing children to develop their own creativity.

The partnership with parents is good. Parents are happy with the care provided their children. Information is shared.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Parents are informed daily of their child's experience. The staff support and enable parents to follow their child's development. Parents are confident their children are cared for.
- There is a good range of activities available at each session. Successful activities are retained throughout the week. Children are given opportunities to extend and develop their play.
- Staff are observant and conscious of the safety of the children. A written risk assessment is made daily and staff continually assess the activities offered. The children make good use of the available space to play safely.

What needs to be improved?

- the recording of the times of attendance;
- the monitoring of staff so that they may recognise and interpret children's individual creativity.

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	Record hours of attendance daily.
3	Monitor the staff's understanding of individual learning needs.

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.