



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113380

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 17/11/2003
Inspector Name Kerry Iden

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Bobtails Montessori Nursery School
Setting Address The Village Hall
Adversane Lane
Adversane
West Sussex
RH14 9JN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Patricia West and Mrs Eleanor Bradley

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

Bobtails Montessori Nursery School has been registered since May 2000 and is situated in a community building in the village of Adversane. The registration is for 12 children, aged two years to five years. The nursery offers sessional times during weekdays, between 8.30 am - 4.30 pm, during term time only and is the main user of the premises; there is also a small outside play area. Montessori teaching is incorporated and the children have occasional outings on foot as there is immediate access to the country. The group have been accredited with the quality kitemark.

How good is the Day Care?

The nursery provides good care. The facility is warm, spacious and very welcoming. The group has made very good use of the space allowing for parents and visitors to enter through a meet and greet area before entering the area used by the children. The staffing ratios are high and staff hold suitable childcare qualifications, training is ongoing and many courses are attended. There is a large selection of play equipment available which is stored at child height to encourage decision making and independence. Detailed documentation is in place to support the efficient running of the group.

Safety is promoted in the provision and emergency plans for fire and accidents are in place, a high level of staff hold current first aid qualifications. There are suitable procedures in place to promote the well being of the children with good hygiene practices maintained. The group have a good understanding of nutrition and offer the children a variety of snacks. The providers have a clear understanding of their responsibility regarding the protection of children in their care.

There is a wide range of play equipment available to the children which covers all the areas of learning. Staff were observed interacting well with the children and were interested in what they had to say. Children were being given the chance to sample many different ways of life with the use of television, literature and play equipment which was also continued through group discussion. There was a vast selection of play equipment which promoted the diversity of society. Behaviour is managed in a positive way with lots of praise and encouragement for the children, children are encouraged to respect and care for each other as well as all the equipment within the nursery. The group works closely with parents, they value their input within the group and keep them well informed of their child's progress. Detailed written information available.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A

What is being done well?

- very clear operational plan in place including detailed information for parents, students and visitors.
- A clear induction programme in place and recorded for new staff/students.
- Excellent interaction observed between the staff and the children.
- Good use is made of the space including the outside area.
- Inviting, warm and welcoming environment.
- Children have a good selection of play equipment.
- Play equipment is stored attractively to children, at their height to invite them to choose for themselves.
- high volume of staff hold current first aid certificates.
- there is a vast amount of equipment and activities available that promote the equality of opportunity.
- the ongoing training that has been in place to extend the group's knowledge of special needs.
- a successful partnership with the parents who are kept well informed about their children through a variety of sources.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The equipment in the nursery and the activities that were being offered to the children to promote the equality of opportunity were excellent. The staff were introducing the children to many different ways of life which included different cultures and religions, through many different sources such as television, literature, role play equipment and experiences from the staff, children and parents.

What needs to be improved?

- N/A

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.

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.