



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 507891

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/01/2004
Inspector Name Melissa Cox

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name The Village Montessori Nursery School
Setting Address Cock Lane
Bradfield
Reading
Berkshire
RG7 6HW

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Jacqueline Diana MacLean

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

The Village Montessori Nursery School is situated in the rural village of Bradfield between Newbury and Reading. Children attend the Montessori nursery school from the local area. The premises have been purpose built and there are two base rooms which the children have free-play access to. There is an enclosed play area with fixed climbing equipment and supervised walks are taken in the adjoining field areas which are part of the overall premises.

The nursery is open term-time only from 9.15 a.m. to 3.15 p.m. Monday to Friday with the exception of a Wednesday where the group stays open until 3.30 pm. The group offers, morning, afternoon and all day sessions . There are 30 places available at each session for children aged from 2.5 years to 5 years with up to 12 places available for the under threes. All the staff are qualified and most have had Montessori training. Staff are first aid qualified. Training and support is accessed through The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership .

Montessori open evenings are held by the nursery school for parents and professionals in early years settings. The group are in receipt of funding for some three year olds and for four year olds . The nursery school also has links with the local schools and other educational settings.

How good is the Day Care?

The Village Montessori Nursery School provides a good standard of care for children. The premises are well laid out and staff have made an attractive environment that is bright and welcoming. Effective use is made of staff, space and resources to ensure that children are well cared for. The group have a good range of well maintained toys and play equipment, including resources that reflect equal opportunities and a vast range of Montessori equipment and children are able to access them easily. Staff are supported in undertaking further training and work together as a team.

Staff make the safety and well being of the children their first concern. They take steps to protect the children from infection and encourage them to have good personal hygiene habits. They are able to meet children's individual dietary needs at snack time. Most staff have a good understanding of child protection issues. They have a good knowledge of equal opportunities and ensure that children learn about the wider world.

Staff make sure that all children have the opportunity to take part in the activities. They interact well with the children throughout the provision, actively listening and promoting learning. Children enjoy interesting and stimulating activities that are well planned. Staff are good role models and set consistent boundaries, using praise and encouragement to promote good behaviour.

The group maintain good relationships with parents and carers. They exchange information verbally and in written form about children's achievements and the group. Most written policies and procedures are in place. All paperwork is well organised and securely stored.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable as last inspection was a transitional inspection to Ofsted.

What is being done well?

- Staff support children well, meeting their needs through their individual knowledge of children and observation, they ensure all children are valued as individuals.
- Good partnerships with parents are in place. Parents have access to a range of information through notice boards and newsletters, which provides regular information about the pre-school news and curriculum. Regular verbal feedback is given by staff.
- Children are able to find their name labels, wash hands, put on aprons, dress for outdoors and play with increasing independence.
- Staff are vigilant about the children's safety. There are effective systems in place for the arrival and departure of the children, which help ensure the safety of children and staff.
- Staff encourage good behaviour through praise and encouragement. They provide good role models, and children are polite and helpful, take turns and share well.
- Staff are well motivated and collaborate well to ensure that children's needs are met. Additional support is given to children with special needs, and they liaise closely with parents and specialists to help children's continual progression.

What needs to be improved?

- Documentation to include lost child policy.

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
14	Devise and implement a policy as to the action to be taken in the event of a child becoming lost.

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.