



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127495

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/01/2005
Inspector Name Jackie Liffen

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Rainbow Pre-School
Setting Address Congregation Church Hall
High Street
Cranbrook
Kent
TN17 3DT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Rainbow Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Rainbow Pre-School
Address Congregation Church Hall
High Street
Cranbrook
Kent
TN17 3DT

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

Rainbow Pre-School has been registered since 1982. It operates from two rooms, in a hall situated in the centre of Cranbrook. It is managed by a parent committee. A maximum of twenty-two children may attend the pre-school at any one time. It is open five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:00 to 15:00 on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 09:00 until noon on Fridays.

There are currently thirty-six children aged from two to under five years on roll. This includes eighteen funded three-year-olds and seven funded four-year-olds. Children attend a variety of sessions and mostly live in the local area. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs.

The pre-school employs seven staff, two of whom are part-time and two full-time. Most of the staff have an early years qualifications to NVQ level II or III. One member of staff is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification and the supervisor is undertaking an NVQ IV qualification.

The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Rainbow Pre-School provides good care for children.

They have a high ratio of staff to children and incorporate a key worker system, which helps to build children's confidence and security. The premises are suitable and provide plenty of space where children are able to play and explore freely and comfortably. Children can access a large range of appropriate toys easily and are guided in their choice by clear labelling.

The group provides a stimulating range of activities which help children develop their potential in all areas of learning. Some positive images of other cultures are on offer. Staff are pro-active in caring for children with special needs and work well with parents and professionals. The behaviour management policy is well written and implemented so that children's self-esteem is preserved.

Staff try to be vigilant about children's safety and keep the premises locked to ensure that they cannot exit unsupervised. They encourage children to maintain healthy routines and provide some nutritious food at snack times. The supervisor

has attended child protection training and ensures that staff are aware of recommended procedures so that the child's welfare is paramount.

The pre-school have sufficiently detailed records and policies in place so that they can work in partnership with parents to provide the best possible care for children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the group have developed an outside patio area plus they have fitted out an office, adjacent to the playrooms.

What is being done well?

- The pre-school have a key worker system in place which works well in promoting children's confidence and competence. They maintain a high ratio of staff to children and have an effective induction programme. Staff have regular meetings and are encouraged to write in a maintenance book when anything needs attention.
- The pre-school have plenty of activities to stimulate learning in all areas and have a comprehensive system of recording children's progress, which involves parents, and is ultimately sufficient for transfer to school. Children enjoy playing co-operatively and alongside each other in free play and during more structured activities. The well organised space affords children plenty of room to explore in peace and comfort and they can help themselves from a range of suitable toys and equipment which promotes their independence
- The staff encourage children to wash their hands under thermostatically controlled hot running water after going to the toilet and before eating. The fire blanket, fire extinguisher and fire drill are clearly displayed and staff are aware of health and safety requirements.
- The staff prepare for children with special needs by working with parents and professionals, adapting equipment, and by attending sign language courses. Although the pre-school have a well written behaviour management policy in place, children are kept well occupied so that there is rarely any problem with unwanted behaviour. The supervisor is well versed in child protection procedures and ensures her staff are fully informed.
- The group have neatly filed records so that the parental committee and staff work well together to help and support families, enabling each child to receive individual care and attention.

What needs to be improved?

- the introduction of fire drills
- the clear recording of children's allergies/special dietary requirements
- the range of positive images depicting religions and disabilities

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	Meet any recommendations made by the Fire Safety Officer regarding fire drills.
8	Record information about children's special dietary requirements/ allergies and ensure all staff are aware.
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

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.