



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY231881

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/07/2004
Inspector Name Christine Bond

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Abbey 345 Playgroup
Setting Address St Guthlacs School
Postland Road, Crowland
Peterborough
PE6 0EE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Abbey 345 Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Abbey 345 Playgroup
Address .
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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

Abbey 345 Playgroup is a committee organised provision registered since 1992. The playgroup operates from a mobile unit set in the grounds of a school in the rural village of Crowland. The premises consist of two play areas, a kitchen area, entrance lobby and toilet facilities for children and staff. There is a fully enclosed outside play area attached to the premises.

The playgroup is open each weekday between 09:00 and 15:00 offering a range of sessions for children between two and five years. Children attending the group are drawn from the surrounding rural area and most speak English as their first language.

There are currently fifty two children on roll including funded three and four year olds. The group have close links with the local community and are members of the Pre-school Learning Alliance. Six staff work with the children with regular support from parents on a rota.

How good is the Day Care?

Abbey 345 Playgroup provides good quality care for children. The committee and staff work well together to provide an organised setting that meets the needs of both parents and children. Good use is made of space and resources to ensure children are well cared for and supported. The premises are warm and welcoming and good use is made of the outdoor areas. An appropriate range of policies, procedures and written records are in place but need to be reviewed to ensure they reflect current practice. An action plan is in place to ensure staff qualifications meet the required standard.

Staff give priority to ensuring children's safety both inside and outside the playgroup. Risk assessment procedures are in place and records show they are carried out regularly. Good health and hygiene practices are maintained and promoted with the children.

Staff use a good selection of play equipment and plan a broad range of activities to enable children to make progress in all areas of development. Children are involved, interested and enjoy their play. Staff know the children well and are able to identify and meet children's needs. Positive methods are used to manage children's behaviour and staff act as good role models.

The partnership with parents is well-developed and effective. Parents form the management committee and some help out in the group on a rota. A range of generally useful written information is provided for parents and regular opportunities are offered to talk with staff about their child's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group agreed to ensure that the full names of volunteers attending the group are recorded, a visitors record maintained and that all committee members undergo relevant checks. These have been implemented and further enhance the protection of children from unsuitable persons. The group also agreed to ensure that children are unable to access the kitchen area unsupervised. A safety gate is in place and staff ensure that it is maintained in good condition and that children are kept safe.

What is being done well?

- The playgroup is well organised and the staff effectively deployed. Children know the routine and are happy and settled.
- Staff plan and provide a wide range of activities to promote learning in all areas. Effective planning ensures that children have opportunities for adult led and child initiated activities
- The staff relate very well to the children in their care. They are interested in what they do and say and are sensitive to their differing needs. This raises children's self esteem and helps them feel safe and secure.
- A warm and welcoming environment is provided for parents/carers and children. Relationships between parents and staff are very good and this has a positive impact on the care and well being of the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the child protection policy to include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer
- written information for parents to ensure it is current
- guidance for committee members and volunteers.
- policies to ensure they reflect current legislation, guidance and practice

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
12	Further develop written information for committee members and volunteers about their roles and responsibilities and review and update the prospectus.
13	Further develop the Child Protection policy to ensure it includes procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member.
14	Review policies to ensure they meet current legislation and guidance.

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.