



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 103832

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/09/2004  
Inspector Name Tracy Larnach

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Parkwood Pre-School  
Setting Address Deanwood Drive  
Rainham  
Gillingham  
Kent  
ME8 9LP

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Parkwood Pre-School Committee

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Parkwood Pre-School Committee  
Address Deanwood Drive  
Rainham  
Gillingham  
Kent  
ME8 9LP

## 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

Parkwood Pre-School opened in 1997. It operates from a static mobile classroom in the grounds of Parkwood School. They have access to two rooms, two store cupboards, toilets and an outside area. The pre-school serves the local area and surrounding community.

There are currently 58 children on roll. This includes 57 funded 3 and 4-year-old children. The children attend a variety of sessions each week. The pre-school staff have experience of working with children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school opens five days a week throughout the year. Sessions last from 13.00 to 15.30. They follow the Reggio Emilia system for providing education in addition to the early learning goals.

There are five staff who work with the children, of these, three have early years qualifications and attend short courses. There are two staff working towards an early years qualification. The pre-school receives support from a Pre-School Learning Alliance development worker, a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and teachers from Parkwood School.

### How good is the Day Care?

Parkwood Pre-School provides good care for children. Staff provide a welcoming, caring environment. As the children have the freedom to move from inside to outside as they wish, staff are organised and work effectively as a team to ensure the children needs are met and that they remain safe. Staff meet regularly to discuss the pre-school, and the children's development. The documentation is generally good, however the attendance record is not clear when a child leaves early and the inspector was not asked to sign the visitors' book.

Staff give a high priority to children's safety; a daily risk assessment is completed, fire drills are accomplished regularly and all staff hold a current first aid certificate. Children learn about health and hygiene through routines such as hand washing. Children can choose to have a drink and their snack whenever they are hungry. The pre-school has child protection procedures, which are in line with the Area Child Protection Committee Procedures, and staff are scheduled for upcoming training.

The children are able to self-select from a broad range of toys, activities and equipment, both inside and out. There is a good balance between self-initiated and adult supported activities. Staff work positively with the children; they are interested in what they say, ask open-ended questions and children are encouraged to communicate with each other. Opportunities to extend their thinking are rarely missed. The children are well behaved and cooperative. Resources reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability. Every child is included and treated with respect, and their differences are valued.

Parents are kept informed about the pre-school and are welcome to volunteer at any time. Policies and procedures are posted along with other information about the pre-school on the parents' notice board. Parent questionnaires are positive and parents are aware of what to do if they have a complaint.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Staff are organised and work effectively as a team. The environment is carefully planned. Children are able to freely move from one area to another and staff ensure they deploy well to ensure the children's safety and that ratios are met.
- Children make many choices. They decide where they begin their day by making their mark on a square on one of the doors. They self-select from a broad range of toys, activities and equipment, and choose whether they play inside or out.
- Staff work positively with the children. There is a good balance between self-initiated and adult-supported activities. The children understand that they have time for a turn so waiting is not often an issue. The children are well behaved and cooperative.
- Staff meet regularly to discuss the pre-school, and the children's development. They ensure that all children are included in their planning and that their needs are met.
- Children can choose to have a drink and their snack whenever they are hungry. Snack time is set up as an activity; children wash their hands, collect their name and serve themselves. Plans are in place to develop this time further as a social occasion, to include the use of tablecloths and napkins and continue to promote healthy eating.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the accuracy of the attendance record and use of the visitors' book.

**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
2	Ensure that registration arrangements show when children, staff and visitors are present at all times.
13	Continue to update staff's knowledge of child protection issues, including the Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

## **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.*