



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109421

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 22/09/2004
Inspector Name Fran Fielder

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Five Ashes Community Playgroup
Setting Address Five Ashes Village Hall
Five Ashes
Mayfield
East Sussex
TN20 6JA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Five Ashes Community Playgroup 1079945

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Five Ashes Community Playgroup
Address Five Ashes Village Hall
Five Ashes
Mayfield
East Sussex
TN20 6JA

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

Five Ashes Community Playgroup opened in 1988. It operates from Five Ashes Village Hall. The group have use of a the main hall and a meeting room. There is a kitchen, toilet facilities and a secure outdoor play area. It serves families from the local community and surrounding villages.

There are currently 17 children, aged from 2 to 4 years, on roll. This includes 12 funded three year olds and no funded four year olds. The playgroup makes provision for children who have special educational needs and English as an additional language.

The playgroup opens five mornings a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09.30 until 12.00. There is also a lunch club that operates from 12.00 until 13.25. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

There are eight members of staff who work at the setting and one regular volunteer. Five members of staff have a recognised early years qualification and one member of staff is on a training programme. All staff hold a current first aid certificate. The setting receives support from an advisor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP)

How good is the Day Care?

Five Ashes Community Playgroup provides good quality care.

Staff create a warm and welcoming environment for children and adults. Staff organise the space well, both indoors and out, allowing children to move freely from one activity to another. There is a good range of safe toys, furniture and equipment that provide stimulating opportunities for children. Resources that reflect diversity are not always evident. Good communication between supervisors ensure children's needs are met and any concerns are quickly passed on so they can be dealt with effectively. Staff deployment is very effective and ensures children are well supervised at all times. All documentation is in place with only some minor discrepancies in the information that goes to parents.

Regular risk assessments identify potential hazards so they can be addressed quickly and effectively. Good hygiene practice ensures children learn the need for good personal hygiene. Snacks are healthy and nutritious which helps children learn

the benefits of a good well-balanced diet. The provision for children with special needs and those who speak English as an additional language is good. All staff are very aware of their responsibility regarding child protection and know how to proceed if they have concerns about a child in their care.

Children are involved in a broad range of activities that support learning. Staff provide a well balanced range of activities that allow children to be involved in quiet and active play both indoors and out. There are very good relationships between staff and children. Staff interact well and have high expectations of behaviour that help children learn right from wrong. Consequently, children behave well.

Parents receive detailed information about all aspects of the provision. Staff are friendly and approachable and make themselves available to give informal feedback at the end of each session.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group agreed to include health checks as part of their recruitment process. They also agreed to write the procedures to be followed in the event that a child becomes lost.

The group now have a standard form for prospective staff to complete. This, together with all other checks, ensures that new staff are physically and mentally suitable to work with children.

There are clear written guidelines for staff to follow in the event of a child being lost. This ensures that staff act quickly and appropriately if a child goes missing.

What is being done well?

- Behaviour management is very good. Staff have high expectations of behaviour and ensure children understand the rules within the group. Children respond well to praise and encouragement. This helps children develop good social skills and build positive relationships with peers.
- Relationships between staff and children are good. Staff are warm and caring and interact well with the children during free and structured play. Staff respond to children's interests and use appropriate strategies to support individuals.
- The partnership with parents is effective. Staff ask for all relevant information about the children to ensure they are looked after according to parents' wishes. Parents receive a welcome pack which outlines all policies and procedures. There are notice boards and regular newsletters that give good ongoing information about the provision.

What needs to be improved?

- the clarity and consistency of information given to parents

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	amend some of the information given to parents to ensure it is consistent and clear

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.