



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 221695

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/06/2004
Inspector Name Sheena Osborne

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Creche Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Hedgehog Club
Setting Address Huntingdon Leisure Centre
St Peters Road
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE29 7DA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Huntingdon District Council Community Services,Hun

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Huntingdon District Council Community Services,Hun
Address Pathfinder House, St. Marys Street
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE29 3TN

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 Hedgehog Club and Toddler Stop crèche are located within Huntingdon Leisure Centre, St Peters Road, Huntingdon, Cambs. The leisure centre facilities are provided by Huntingdonshire District Council Leisure Services.

The Hedgehog Club offers holiday care for 100 children aged 5-11 years and is open from Monday to Friday from 08:30 to 17:30. There are currently 160 children on roll. The sports hall is the main area of the building used for the Hedgehog club but the Gemini Suite is used occasionally. Children can attend for full or half days and a range of activities are available, including art and crafts, swimming, team games and sports. Two members of staff have play work qualifications. The other staff have mainly sports related training and experience.

The crèche is open throughout the year, on weekdays from 09:15 to 13:45. Children can attend from 6 weeks old up to the age of 5 years. There are currently 50 children on roll. The staff who run the crèche have suitable early years training and experience.

The group is able to offer care to children with special needs.

How good is the Day Care?

Hedgehog Club and Toddler Stop Crèche provides satisfactory care over all children. Hedgehog Club provides care for children aged between 5 years and eleven years. Toddler Stop Crèche provides care for children aged between six weeks and five years old.

The setting is based in the recreational centre. The Toddler Stop Crèche have a designated area which they have sole use of. The Hedgehog Club use the large sports hall and on some days use the smaller sports hall. Staff are aware of the safety issues and follow the groups procedures to minimise risks. They work well together in their teams and attend regular staff meetings. Staff have a range of skills and experience. Most of the documentation which the group is required to have is now in place, however there are some areas that need to be developed.

Staff in the Crèche have creatively organised the space and resources making an attractive and interesting environment for children. In both parts of the provision, the staff are aware of the individual needs of the children in their care. They use this

knowledge to provide appropriate and stimulating activities.

Throughout the provision there is a range of suitable play equipment and activities. The staff and children work well together. The children are treated as individuals and respect is shown to differing needs, encouraging the children to have respect for others and for their environment. Children's behaviour is managed positively and they are independent and helpful.

Staff make themselves available to share information with the parents. This contributes to the effective partnership they have with parents. The group has policies and procedures which reflect the groups practices. However these are not shared fully with the parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to improve safety by monitoring the temperature of the water in the crèche toilet facilities, complying with Fire Officer recommendations and ensuring that all staff are aware of the procedure to be followed with regard to medication. The water temperature has been regulated to a safe temperature for the children accessing it. The Fire Officer recommendations are being met and staff are now aware of the procedure to be followed with regard to storing and administering medication. All of these measures have been put in place to minimise any risk to the children accessing the provision.

The provider also agreed to improve the provision by insuring that appropriate recruitment procedures were in place, including vetting, having staff with appropriate experience and qualifications, improving staff's knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities, that senior staff were aware of their role and responsibilities, and that current legislation is complied with regard to staff breaks. The provider has taken steps to ensure that there is the required qualification with in the staff team and that staff have been vetted. Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities and current legislation is adhered to. This has improved the organisation of space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

The provider also agreed to provide a wider range of activities and equipment to meet the individual needs of the children using the provision. The provider has developed the range of activities and equipment available which has enabled the group meet the individual needs of the children.

What is being done well?

- The staffing ratio is higher than that set out in the National Standards which enables the staff to provide suitable care for the children.
- Staff work as a team they are aware of their roles and responsibilities. This has a positive effect on the smooth running of the day.
- Resources are organised and freely accessible encouraging the children to develop their decision making skills.

- Children are involved in drawing up the groups rules, these are displayed for all to see. This, along with the staff having a calm attitude with the children, encourages positive behaviour amongst the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the uncollected child procedure
- the record all medication administered
- the parental signature to acknowledge medication administered
- the complaints procedure for the parents
- the sharing of information with parents.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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 must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
14	ensure that all records relating to day care activities are readily accessible on the premises and available for inspection at all times. With particular reference to complaints procedure, uncollected child procedure, written parental consent to seek emergency medical advice.	31/07/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
7	Ensure that your procedure to keep a written record, of medicines administered to children is use on all occasions and that a countersignature is obtained by the parents to acknowledge this. Also ensure that all accidents that occur to the children whilst in your care are

	recorded.
14	Update procedures with particular reference to the complaints procedure and the uncollected child procedure.
12	Provide opportunities for parents to access the group's policies and 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.