



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 100626

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 26/05/2004
Inspector Name Ann Elizabeth Hector

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Ready Steady Go (Primrose Hill)
Setting Address 29 Hopkinsons Place
Camden
London
NW1 8TN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Jennifer Silverton

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

Ready Steady Go (Primrose Hill) was registered in 2001 and is for children aged 2-3 years. Two other nurseries owned by the Principal provide places for 3-5 year old children.

There are 20 children aged from 2-3 years on roll, it provides a service to the local community and parents who work in the area.

The provision is situated in the ground floor hall of a Community Centre, and includes a kitchen area and storage cupboards. There are sufficient and suitable toilet facilities for children and a nappy changing area; there are separate facilities for adults. The overall standard of hygiene is good.

The hall is divided into learning areas with suitable equipment for the age range. There is access to an outdoor area (the hall above can be used in wet weather), staff also take children to local parks. The hall is bright and welcoming with stimulating activities set up for the children as they arrive.

The five members of staff are qualified in Early Years Education, ranging from BA Hons, PGTC and NNEB. Also qualified teachers come in weekly to hold music, dance & drama workshops with the children.

The staff have completed Camden & Westminster's 'Celebrating Quality' assessment and development scheme and are considering mentoring other Providers to develop and improve the care and education provided to children under 5 years of age.

Of the 20 children attending only one has English as an additional language and two have special educational needs. The Nursery has funding for 5 children aged 3 years; there are no funded 4 year olds at the moment.

Opening times: Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9.30 am until 12.30 pm. Term time only. There are optional dance workshops available.

Bus routes are within walking distance.

How good is the Day Care?

Ready, Steady Go nursery provides good care for children.

The nursery is well organised with a committed and well deployed staff team who meet the needs of the children. The premises is secure and welcoming, the hall has structured activities that are planned to meet individual needs and promote the Early Learning Goals. Staff record children's progress, the activities are evaluated to ensure they are giving the children the opportunity to reach their full potential. For free play periods they choose from a variety of suitable play materials developing their confidence and independence.

The outdoor area is securely fenced and imaginative use is made of the space; equipment is set up to reflect the 'theme' for the term and the children contribute ideas for play, allowing them to explore, experiment and think for themselves.

Premises are risk assessed daily before the children arrive. Staff have recently attended appropriate First Aid training for children and infants. Arrangements for food and drink are good; information about any cultural/dietary needs are recorded and made available to staff and children have access to drinks throughout the day.

The nursery's policy of inclusion encourages the children to respect each other, all the children have access to the play materials and resources reflect the diversity of the community. The children are well behaved, staff are attentive and praise consistently. Staff are aware of their responsibility regarding child protection issues and will inform the manager of any concerns.

The partnership with parents and carers is good; the Key worker feeds back on the child's day and each term the child's record of achievement is discussed. Photographs and information are displayed about current projects. There are positive responses in parent questionnaires.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Completion of Quality Assurance scheme - all areas of practice reviewed and plans made and implemented to address any issues in the service.

What is being done well?

- Effective deployment of staff meets the needs of the children creating a calm environment that is the foundation of successful behaviour management.
- The equal opportunities policy is clear and is implemented for staff recruitment. Children with special needs are included in all the activities and individual support is available to promote the child's development.
- Good procedures in place to ensure premises are secure, staff each have a key to access doors. Fire safety requirements are complied with. All the staff are certified First Aiders.
- A settling in period for new children is tailored to their needs, parents' are allowed to extend the time until they are ready.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

The staff have completed the Camden & Westminster 'Celebrating Quality'

self-assessment and development scheme. The report concludes that staff found the assessment a 'useful tool for helping them to reflect and review their practice. The strength of Ready, Steady Go is their willingness to consider the needs of their children, staff and parents. This is reflected through strong leadership and a clear vision about the service they want to provide. The general impression is of a well motivated team all working to a shared goal of giving the children a positive pre-school experience in a happy, creative atmosphere'. She also suggested the staff consider being mentors for other childcare providers because they now have a clear understanding of the scheme.

What needs to be improved?

- There are no identified areas for improvement: the staff team are committed to reviewing their practice to provide a 'positive experience' to children aged from 2-3 years.

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
3	Continue to review practice on the provision of positive experiences of care, learning and play to children aged from 2-3 years.

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.