



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY269973

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/01/2005
Inspector Name Anita Bartram

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Fyfield Pre-School
Setting Address Scout HQ
Fyfield
Essex

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Fyfield Pre-School 1048611

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Fyfield Pre-School
Address Walker Avenue
Fyfield
Ongar
Essex
CM5 0RG

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

Fyfield Pre-school opened in 1992. The group operates from the village Scout Headquarters, which is in the centre of the village. A maximum of 26 children may attend the group at any one time. The pre-school opens for four mornings a week, during school term times. Sessions are from 09.00 until 11.30.

There are currently 22 children aged from 3 to under 5 years on roll. Of these, 21 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local and wider catchment area. There are currently no children attending who have special needs or who have English as an additional language.

The pre-school employs five staff. Three of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff is working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Fyfield Pre-school provides good care for children.

The organisation of the setting is very good and staff are deployed effectively to work directly with children. Staff ensure a warm and welcoming environment through posters on display, notices and well-prepared activities. There is a wide and stimulating range of resources that are planned well to cover all areas of learning, although children do not sufficiently incorporate books into their play. Most documentation is in place.

Staff provide a secure environment for children. All staff are aware of the children's safety and very effective measures are in place to minimise hazards. There are good working procedures in place on outings. Two members of staff have current first aid certificates. Children are able to try a variety of nutritious and healthy foods at snack time. Staff use snack time effectively to extend children's language and independence skills, although the fixed routine of snack and group time restricts children's abilities to extend and develop their learning. All staff are appropriately aware of their child protection responsibilities.

Staff provide a very caring environment where children's individual needs are considered well. Staff follow effective working practices to meet specific needs of children with special educational needs. There is a good range of resources to

promote positive images of diversity to children. The supervisor has developed good long and medium term plans to provide children with meaningful activities to cover the early learning goals. Children play purposefully and co-operatively. Children's behaviour is very good, they appreciate right from wrong and staff have a good understanding of reasons behind children's unwanted behaviour.

Staff are readily available to speak with parents at either end of the day. Parents are welcomed into the group at any time and are invited to special days in the group's calendar such as sports day and Christmas celebrations.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to keep an accurate register of staff and children's times of attendance. This has been done effectively. The behaviour management policy now includes bullying and the supervisor has attended further training in behaviour management which has had a positive impact on the children's behaviour.

The complaints procedure, with Ofsted's contact details, is now accessible to parents through the prospectus. Electrical sockets are now covered.

What is being done well?

- The operational plan works very effectively in practice. The key worker system is meaningful and staff know their key children well. Staff work very well as a team and have clear roles and responsibilities.
- There is a wide range of equipment to provide children with good learning opportunities. For example, children took keen interest in the caterpillars being passed around and were very interested to hear about how they would become butterflies in the prepared butterfly house.
- Staff make good use of snack time to help children experience a wide and different range of tastes. Children are able to try different fruits and raw vegetables, raw fish such as prawns, tuna and crab, and staff make use of festivals to introduce other foods such as noodles.
- Staff are consistent and positive in the way they manage the children's behaviour. As a result, children are very aware of expectations and boundaries and consequently very little unwanted behaviour is seen from the children.
- Staff have a good awareness of keeping the children safe and secure. A comprehensive risk assessment has been completed which staff use within their working practice.

What needs to be improved?

- the lost and uncollected child procedures
- the organisation of the session so routines do not restrict children's learning

opportunities

- the children's independent use of books

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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	Expand the lost and uncollected children policy to give parents and staff clearer understanding of procedures.
2	Review the organisation of the session so routines do not restrict children's learning opportunities.
5	Increase the children's independent use of books.

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.