



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127755

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/11/2004
Inspector Name Beryl Witheridge

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Weald Pre-School
Setting Address St Georges Church Hall
Church Road, Weald
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN14 6LT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Weald Pre School 3817663

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Weald Pre School
Address St Georges Church Hall
Church Road, Weald
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN14 6LT

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

Weald Pre-school opened in 1967 and operates from two rooms in a church hall. It is situated in the village of Weald in Sevenoaks. A maximum of 26 children may attend the pre-school at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 09:00 to 12:00 during school term time. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 32 children aged from two and a half to under five years on roll. Of these 25 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local area. The pre-school currently supports a number of children with special educational needs but there are currently no children who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school employs seven staff. Three of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff are working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Weald Pre-school provides good care for children.

The pre-school is run by dedicated staff who are either qualified, undertaking training or who regularly update their knowledge with short courses. Staffing levels are always maintained and are often higher than the minimum required. Staff work very well together as a team and are all aware of their roles and responsibilities. They have use of two rooms in a church hall. They utilise the space well to provide the children with a warm, bright, welcoming environment and different areas of play.

The staff are aware of the safety of the children within their care, children are supervised at all times while on the premises. Two members of staff monitor the door at the beginning and end of each session. Risk assessments are carried out regularly. Staff practise good hygiene routines and encourage the children in these. They are aware of the individual needs of each child and aim to ensure that those needs are being met at all times.

The activities provided for the children are varied and interesting. Children do not have free access to resources but staff try to provide them with a wide variety of activities during each session, to give them choices. Staff work closely with the children taking an interest in all they do, talking and listening to them. Planning

shows that staff use their knowledge of the children to ensure that their individual developmental needs are met.

There is a good relationship between parents and the group. Parents are given a prospectus and newsletters to keep them up to date with everything that is happening. Information is written in English only. Parents are able to speak to staff at any time but not all parents are aware that they can see their children's records. Staff meet with parents when their child leaves the group to go to school. They discuss the 'Record of Transfer' with them. The group will consider a yearly report to keep parents up to date with their child's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The group was asked to have a named person responsible for behaviour management in the policy statement. This has been done.

They needed a copy of the Area Child Protection Committee procedures, this has been acquired.

The complaints policy required updating, this has been done.

They were asked to maintain records for the administration of medicine, incidents and existing injuries. These records are now in place.

Fire fighting equipment needed checking to ensure it is serviced and safe. This has been done.

They were asked to ensure that the plants outside are not dangerous for children. The plants have been checked and this is an ongoing process.

What is being done well?

- The staff are very aware of the needs of the individual children. Activities are provided which are suitable to their needs and contribute to their development. The children are happy, confident and secure.
- The staff have excellent interaction with the children. They talk and listen to them at all times. Encouraging and praising them in all they do.
- The staff use positive and consistent strategies to manage children's behaviour. These strategies are well thought out to ensure children's individual needs are met.
- Good hygiene practices are encouraged. Children know how and when to wash their hands. Tables are always washed before food is served. This develops the children's own good hygiene practices.
- There is a good working relationship with the parents. They all have copies of policies and procedures. They have the opportunity to come into the group to discuss their child's progress and to look at records.

What needs to be improved?

- the Health and Safety training for staff
- the provision of drinking water for children throughout the session
- the children's dietary information, for staff working in the kitchen
- the provision of toys and equipment which promote equality of opportunity, especially disability
- the staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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.