



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 311433

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/10/2004
Inspector Name Cathleen Howarth

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Creche Day Care
Setting Name Crossroads Creche
Setting Address Oxfield Court Day Centre
Albany Road, Dalton
Huddersfield
West Yorkshire
HD5 9UZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Huddersfield Crossroad-Caring for Carers
1069331

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Huddersfield Crossroad-Caring for Carers
Address 23b Packhorse Walk
Huddersfield
West Yorkshire
HD1 2RT

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

Crossroads Crèche was registered in 1997 to respond to the needs of children with special needs and their families. Crossroads is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It is run by a voluntary committee. The committee delegate day to day management to the Manager who has overall responsibility for domiciliary and day care services. Crossroads operates from Oxfield Court Day Centre, Dalton rented from St Anne's Housing. The Day Centre Supervisor has supervisory responsibility for children and staff at crèche.

The Day Centre is purpose built to meet the needs of service users. The hall is used as the main activity room with soft ball pool, the music room is also used for TV and videos. A separate sensory room with fish tank is used as a quiet area. Adjoining the main hallway there are separate toilets with changing units and facilities for service users who require additional aids. There is a separate kitchen adjoining the main activity room used to prepare snack.

The crèche caters for children under 8 years, depending on their level of need, is open alternate Saturdays from 09:30-12:30 and is closed at Christmas.

Currently there are five children on roll with disabilities who live within Kirklees and attend on a sessional basis. Crossroads can support children with profound communication difficulties in addition to those who speak English as a second language.

Currently there are five staff who work with children. The majority of staff hold a relevant childcare qualification and all staff have appropriate training to provide the necessary personal and medical care required by the children.

How good is the Day Care?

Crossroads Crèche provides good quality care for children. Staff have interpreted the National Standards well and in the best interests of children. They are committed to personal professional development which is evident in the positive outcomes for children. There is a supportive management structure to promote the smooth running of crèche. The environment is welcoming and friendly in which children have space to play and relax. Quality toys, equipment and play materials are used to help make a stimulating and fun place for children to play and meet others. Children's records are well maintained and available to view.

The crèche is a safe place to learn through play and proper precautions are taken to minimize risks to children. There are effective routines and procedures in place to promote the good health of children, healthy eating is promoted through nutritious snacks. There are missed opportunities at snack time to further develop self help and social skills. Good adult: child ratios are maintained to provide for the individual needs of children. Staff have relevant training to provide for children with special needs and disabilities. they have sufficient knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures.

There is an imaginative physical play area in addition to a wide range of planned, interesting activities to support children's overall development and to help make their time at crèche enjoyable. There are limited opportunities for children to engage in creative play. Children are settled and are confident with their carers, their activities are well supported.

There are effective routines and procedures in place to keep parents informed about the setting and their children's welfare. Information is shared between staff and parents in an informal way about the care their children receive, and how their children have spent their time at crèche. The majority of required documentation is in place.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- The organisation of crèche is good. There are clearly defined areas for children to choose from a wide range of accessible toys, equipment and play materials which support their overall development. When required children receive 1:1 support to enable them to make full use of the resources and activities available.
- There are effective routines and procedures in place to promote the good health of children. Staff are appropriately trained to provide the necessary personal and medical care required by the children. There are effective recording systems in place to reflect childcare practice and to keep parents informed about their children's care, welfare and progress.
- Provision for children with special needs and disabilities is good. The Day Centre has been designed to meet the needs of service users and is a safe environment for children to meet and play. Staff are focused on the individual needs of children. They have the appropriate skills and disposition to provide for children with complex needs. Children enjoy their time at the setting and they are learning through their play.
- There is effective partnership with parents. Trusting relationships are built on the regular, informal exchange of information. Attention to detail is recognised and staff share relevant information with parents to promote continuity of care and learning.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

There are excellent examples of effective communication with children, staff learn how to sign with children to improve communication and to develop self esteem and confidence. Staff are focused on the individual needs of children achieved through high staff ratios and ongoing training opportunities. Children are settled and enjoy their time at crèche. They are encouraged to use what they know and to learn more. (Standard 9)

What needs to be improved?

- documentation with regards to the existing form used to record medicine administered to children
- arrangements to include differentiation and creative play when planning activities for children
- enhance existing provision at snack time to further promote independence and social skills.

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	Consider including more provision for creative play.
7	Review the existing form to record medication administered to children.
8	Consider building on existing arrangements at snack time to enhance self help and social skills.

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.