



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY258797

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/12/2003
Inspector Name Jan Clarke-Potter

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Rhymetime Nursery
Setting Address Southbrook
Corby
Northamptonshire
NN18 9BE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Avenue Nurseries Ltd 4504882

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Avenue Nurseries Ltd
Address Sherwood House, Badby Road West
Daventry
Northamptonshire
NN11 4HJ

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

Rhymetime Day Nursery opened in June 2003, and is situated in the grounds of Kingswood Infant and Junior Schools. It runs from purpose-built mobile premises and there is an enclosed play area separated from the school by a high wooden fence. There are car parks to the front of the building and to the side for staff and parent's use. The nursery serves the local area. There are three main play areas for babies, toddlers, and pre-school children. There are also various other rooms to support staff and parents, and all exits have disabled access.

There are currently 35 children from three months to under five years on roll. This includes funded three and four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions and the nursery is open five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 08:00 until 18:00. The nursery is able to support children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language. Most of the staff are full-time and have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 and 3, currently one member of staff is working towards an early years qualification. The setting receives mentor support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and the Sure Start Initiative.

The nursery is also registered for out of school care. It operates from the main pre-school playroom and children from the local school attend. The out of school club is open from 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:15 to 18:00 during term time, and the holiday club runs from 08:00 to 18:00 during school holidays only.

How good is the Day Care?

Rhymetime Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. Good use of space and displays of children's work provides a warm and welcoming environment, in which children feel happy, settled and secure. The good organisation of the facility and comprehensive documentation in particular ensures the smooth day to day running of the provision. Records are well organised and details are kept up to date. There are effective induction procedures for new staff.

There is a varied range of resources and stimulating activities provided for the children. Toys are easily accessible and provide sufficient challenge. The high ratio of staff to children ensures that children's individual needs are met and they are supported in their play and learning. Staff encourage positive behaviour and as a

result children are very well behaved. There is a secure and enclosed outdoor play area which is also suitable for disabled access.

Staff are pro-active in promoting health and safety, risk assessments are done regularly and there are effective systems for the safe arrival and collection of children. Fire drill evacuations are practised regularly, procedures are known by all staff and these are recorded. High standards of hygiene are observed, and children are encouraged in their hygiene routines; they clean their teeth and wash hands when required. With one minor exception all permissions are obtained.

There are good working relationships with parents and information exchange. Parental questionnaires are very positive. Policies and procedures are clear and shared with parents and promote the children's welfare. There is effective liaison between staff, parents and other agencies in order to meet individual needs.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- A high ratio of staff to children enhances high quality interaction with the children, staff know each child's individual needs very well, and as a result children feel supported, settled and secure.
- Space and resources are arranged very well to suit the children's needs. A wide variety of good quality indoor and outdoor toys are available, children have free choice of them and they are appropriate to their age and stage of development.
- Staff work in partnership with parents to meet the individual needs of all the children. The care of the youngest babies in the nursery is particularly good. Staff working with babies regularly consult with parents to ensure the care they provide complements the babies' individual routines. There is also a daily record sheet which is used on a two-way basis between parents and staff.
- Documentation is kept to a high standard, and confidentiality is a priority. The staff have continually updated and improved the quality of information given to parents and carers about the provision since opening, and they have built up good working and trusting relationships with them.

What needs to be improved?

- the system for obtaining written parental permission for emergency medical advice or treatment.

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
7	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.

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.