



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 144065

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/11/2003
Inspector Name Jane Steventon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name St. Michaels Pre-School
Setting Address Stockwell Park Road
London
SW9 0DA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of St Michaels Pre-School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St Michaels Pre-School
Address Stockwell Park Road
Stockwell
London
SW9 0DA

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

St. Michael's Pre School Playgroup opened in 1960. It operates from St. Michael's Church Hall which is located in Stockwell and serves the local area.

There are currently 31 children from two years and six months to four years and nine months on roll. This includes 17 funded three year olds and four funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during term time. sessions are from 09.45 until 12.15. Three full time and one part time members of staff, plus a volunteer, work with the children. There is currently one staff vacancy. Half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ Level 2 and two members of staff will be working towards NVQ level 3 in 2004.

The setting is a member of the Pre School Learning Alliance and receives support from Lambeth Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

St. Michael's Pre school Playgroup provides satisfactory care.

A good range of stimulating activities and experiences are provided which encourage children's development in all areas. The pre school environment is warm and welcoming, space is generally well organised and a good range of play materials and equipment are provided, encouraging children to explore their environment. Children are able to make choices about their play and children who are new to the group are encouraged to observe if they do not want to join in activities.

Staff interact well with children providing a warm, caring environment, they are aware of children's individual needs and encourage children's language by listening and asking questions. Children generally behave well, they socialise and communicate well with each other and staff.

Staff are aware of safety issues, daily and longer term risk assessments are carried out.

The Pre School operates the Pre School Learning Alliance Policies. Necessary policies, procedures and documentation are in place, although some records and documentation lack detail. The current induction process for volunteers works in practice, but there is no documentation in place.

Staff have good relationships with parents, who are involved through the management committee and a parent's rota. Information about children's development is currently shared with parents on an informal basis.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Following the last Inspection the Pre school agreed to; ensure that person in charge's identity is available for next inspection and a photocopy is forwarded to OFSTED, ensure that reasonable steps are taken to minimise hazards to children both inside and outside the premises, ensure that adequate fire detection and control equipment is readily available, provide clear policy on administration of medication including consent forms and record book, obtain parent's signature on accident record, comply with regulations relating to food safety and hygiene, provide named member of staff for behaviour management and ensure that records are always available for child care inspector.

The Leader's identification was not seen during inspection, a photocopy will be forwarded to OFSTED, a daily risk assessment of premises and grounds now takes place, fire extinguishers are readily available, policy on administration of medication and method to record medication are in place, parents sign accident records, tables are cleaned before being used to serve food, a named member of staff is responsible for behaviour management and records are available for inspection.

What is being done well?

- Children relate confidently to each other and staff, they enjoy a range of activities and play materials and are able to make choices about their play and about which fruit they have at snack time.
- Staff have good knowledge of children's individual needs they listen to children and ask questions to extend children's language, for example, asking what they did at the weekend during circle time.
- Staff have good relationships with parents and provide a supportive service. A new system of recording children's development has recently been put into practice to provide a more formal method of sharing information with parents about their child's development.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation; to ensure there are details of volunteers and records visitors
- information; guidance for volunteers on their role and responsibilities
- information; for staff relating to child protection

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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
1	make sure OFSTED are informed of all staff and committee changes.
1	make sure records of volunteers and visitors are maintained and available for inspection.
13	obtain copy of 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused'

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.