



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY259485

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/10/2004
Inspector Name Lesley Sharples

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Total Tots Limited
Setting Address Caton Road
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 3PE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Total Tots Limited 04688162

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Total Tots Limited
Address Caton Road
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 3RA

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

Total Tots has been registered since May 2003. It is situated in the Total Fitness Health and Leisure Centre in Lancaster. The local area is on the outskirts of the city and close to a motorway junction serving families from the local and wider communities.

The nursery is set within a purpose built area of the leisure centre and provides five separate play rooms, two of which are used by children under two years, one for children aged between two to three years, and a pre school room. There is also a room for quiet activities. Other facilities comprise of a separate laundry, milk room, nappy changing area, kitchen and office, plus two toilet areas for the children and one staff toilet. There is an outside area with fitted safety surface to the side of the nursery.

Registration is for a total of 62 children under five years and there are currently 50 children on the register, six of whom attend on a full time basis, the remaining children on a part time basis throughout the week. There are no children for whom English is an additional language and non are attending who have special needs.

The nursery is open from 07:30 to 18:00 each week day throughout the year apart from Bank Holidays and Christmas. There is a staff team of nine of whom six are qualified to Level 3 in child care and five of the team work on a full time basis.

Membership of the National Day Nurseries Association and Pre School Learning Alliance is retained and support is gained from the local authority.

How good is the Day Care?

Total Tots provides good care for children. There is a warm, bright and welcoming environment for the children and good use is made of space to provide different play areas and movement within the nursery. The staff team are committed to ongoing training and development to enhance their existing knowledge and experience. They work well together and are aware of their individual roles and responsibilities. The organisation of documentation is generally good.

There is a clear understanding of keeping children safe both indoors and out and all reasonable steps have been taken to minimise risks to children. The premises are kept secure and arrival and departures times are monitored. Good hygiene practice

is encouraged as part of the children's daily routine. Meals and snacks provided are balanced and nutritious with excellent emphasis on healthy eating. Child protection responsibilities and procedures are understood however the written statement lacks detail.

Planned activities and resources provide a good range of learning experiences for the children especially in the younger age range. Opportunities for development in all areas are given and the children enjoy themselves at play both in adult led activities and independently chosen ones although outdoor play experiences are limited. They are able to enjoy positive experiences in learning about our multi cultural society and some resources and activities reflect diversity. Observing and assessing children's learning needs to assist planning is limited. Positive strategies are in place to sensitively manage children's behaviour and they enjoy a nurturing and caring time.

Partnership with parents is based on good communication both written and verbal. Confidentiality is acknowledged as important and records are securely held and shared with parents. Parents have access to all policies and procedures in place. Parents are welcome and invited to take part in aspects of nursery life.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Children are involved in a wide range of activities to promote their learning and development. The appreciation of music is encouraged through a visiting professional who promotes enjoyable and fun opportunities for singing, playing musical instruments and action rhymes. The staff further this by continuing the activities and by playing calming tapes and classical music within the rooms.
- The provision of resources and activities for babies is very good. They are able to experience a range of painting and tactile activities and the 'treasure basket' is understood and implemented well by staff. Babies own home routine is followed to maintain continuity between home and nursery as far as possible.
- The staff maintain good safety awareness and there is a clear understanding of fire evacuation procedures and provision for getting young children out of the building efficiently.
- Healthy eating is given due importance. The purchase, preparation and provision of fresh food is enjoyed by the children.
- There is strong partnership with parents. Good efforts are made to keep them informed of their children's time within the nursery and opinions are sought and valued. Parents play an active part in some aspects of nursery life and are kept updated with new initiatives and changes to practice.

What needs to be improved?

- the system for observing and recording individual children's development
- the development of the outdoor area
- the information within the child protection statement.

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	Implement a system for observing, assessing and recording children's development in all areas and use this to influence planning individual children's needs.
5	Develop the outdoor play area to provide stimulating and challenging play opportunities for children.
13	Revise the child protection statement to clarify and clearly state procedures and responsibilities.

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.