



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109516

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/09/2004
Inspector Name Christine McInally

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name St Richard's Pre-School
Setting Address St Richards Church Hall
Park Road
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 8DT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of St Richard's Pre-School 1068465

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St Richard's Pre-School
Address Park Road
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 8DT

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 Richards Pre-school opened in 1969. It operates from the church hall, using one large room and has use of a smaller room. The pre-school serves the local area.

There are currently 19 children from 2 to 5 years on roll, of which 10 are funded 3-year-olds and none are funded 4-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Currently there are no children with special needs nor any children for whom English is an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9:30 until 12:00.

Four part time/full time staff work with the children. The supervisor has an early years qualification. Two other staff members are currently on training programmes.

How good is the Day Care?

The standard and quality of care at St Richard's Pre-school is good. The pre-school is well organised and provides a warm, child friendly environment where children are happy and settled. There is an excellent operational plan in place which guides the staff team in their daily practice. Staff demonstrate a sound understanding of health and hygiene issues, there are good safety measures in place and children are safe and well cared for.

Staff have a good knowledge of each child's needs and interests and work well together as a team. They form warm, caring relationships with the children who are happy and confident to try new experiences. Staff plan and provide an interesting range of worthwhile topics and activities, helping children make good progress in all areas of development. A wide range of good quality resources supports children's learning.

There is an effective partnership with parents and good links are forged between the pre-school and home. They are provided with useful information about the pre-school, and have opportunities to be involved either as a parent helper or as a member of the committee. The regular exchange of information on children's progress ensures that their individual needs are well met. While all the relevant paperwork is place the complaints procedure needs to be up dated.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- An interesting range of activities and topics arouses children's curiosity they are happy, confident and well motivated to learn.
- Staff know the children well, they spend a lot of time talking and playing with them. Children happily engage in the activities offered and their early learning skills are developed well.
- Children respond well to the consistent praise and encouragement. They readily take part in activities, help to tidy away resources and are very well behaved.
- The excellent operational plan with clear, comprehensive policies and procedures demonstrates clearly that the committee and staff team have a very good working knowledge of the Standards. This ensures an environment that supports all aspects of children's care and learning.

What needs to be improved?

- the complaints procedure.

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
14	Update the complaints procedure to include information on how parents can contact Ofsted directly.

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.