



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109536

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/09/2004
Inspector Name Christine McInally

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Welcome Pre-school Group
Setting Address Alexandra Road
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 8EQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Management Committee

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Management Committee
Address Welcome Pre-School Group
Welcome Church, Alexandra Road
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 0UW

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

Welcome Pre-school Group opened in 1989. It operates from two rooms within the church on the outskirts of the town centre and has use of an outdoor area. The group serves the local area.

There are currently 18 children on roll, of these 13 are funded three-year-olds. Due to the timing of this inspection there were no funded four-year-olds on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children who have special needs and children for whom English is an additional language.

The group opens four days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9:30 until 12:00 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. During the summer term the Monday session runs until 12:30.

Six members of staff work with the children, of these four hold appropriate early years qualifications, one is currently undertaking a suitable qualification and the other is unqualified but has good experience of working with young children.

How good is the Day Care?

The standard and quality of care at Welcome Pre-school Group is good. The pre-school provides a warm, child friendly environment where children are happy and settled. There is an effective operational plan in place which guides the staff team in their daily practice. All the relevant paperwork is in place and is well maintained. 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 form warm, caring relationships with the children and work well together as a team. They plan and provide an interesting range of worthwhile topics and activities in which children eagerly participate. The pre-school session is well organised with opportunities for children to work in small group and whole group activities, however, snack time is less effective. A good range of resources is well used to support children's learning, although resources that reflect diversity are limited.

There is an effective partnership with parents and good links are forged between the pre-school and home. They are offered opportunities to be involved in their child's learning, for example as a parent helper. The regular exchange of information on children's progress ensures that their individual needs are well met.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Following the last inspection the pre-school agreed to review their recruitment procedures, to develop a lost child policy and to ensure the visitors book is well maintained. The recruitment process now includes a health declaration, there is a lost child policy in place and the visitors book is up to date. All of these measures contribute to the smooth running of the pre-school.

What is being done well?

- Staff spend a lot of time talking and playing with the children, and support them well in the activities offered. Children are confident to try new experiences and are well motivated to learn.
- Music is well used to encourage children to express themselves creatively. Children enjoy playing with the musical instruments and the regular music and movement activities.
- The pre-school creates an environment that encourages good behaviour and staff are confident in their management of this. Children respond well to the consistent praise and encouragement. They readily take part in activities, help to tidy away resources and are well behaved.
- Relationships between children and staff are good. These help children develop confidence and supports their learning.

What needs to be improved?

- organisation of snack time
- resources that reflect diversity and the emphasis given to developing children's awareness of other cultures and beliefs.

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
2	Review the organisation of snack time; consider how children are grouped to make this a more sociable time for children and staff.
9	Increase resources that reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity and disability.

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.