



**Office for Standards
in Education**

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113484

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/06/2004
Inspector Name Michelle Ann Parham

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Creche Day Care
Setting Name First Steps Creche
Setting Address Chi College
Westgate Fields
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1SB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Dr. Richard Parker

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

First Steps Crèche has been registered since 1998. It operates from a bungalow and three linked portable buildings set in the campus of Chichester College, Chichester, West Sussex. It is managed by the college and serves the students attending.

The crèche is registered to provide care for forty eight children aged under five years and is open from Monday to Friday 08:45 to 17:00.

At the time of the inspection, 73 children were on the register. The group are able to offer appropriate support to children who have a recognised special educational need and children who speak English as an additional language. At the time of the inspection, eleven members of staff were employed to work with the children. Eight members of staff hold relevant early years qualifications and all staff are currently first aid qualified.

The group receives support from the Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership and works closely with the College and First Steps Day Nursery.

How good is the Day Care?

First Steps Crèche offers good quality care for children.

Staff are suitably qualified and experienced to care for children and have a good understanding of the national standards. The crèche facility is attractive and comfortable and staff organise the premises well and have written procedures in place to ensure it is maintained and suitable for use. Resources are varied and well maintained, however improvement is required in regard to providing a stimulating environment and encouraging children to access the resources independently. All the required documentation is in place to support sharing of information and confidentiality is maintained. However, an area for improvement has been identified.

Staff give high priority to monitoring a secure premises and the safety of children at all times. Children's dietary needs are met in accordance with parents' wishes and the staff act appropriately to promote children's health and well-being. The staff have a positive attitude towards the care of children with special needs. They have an understanding of child protection and are able to deal with concerns appropriately.

Staff recognise children as individuals and meet their differing needs well. They manage behaviour sensitively and the quality of interaction is good and enhances

aspects of children's development. The children enjoy attending, are happy, settled and relate well to the staff and each other.

There is very good partnership with parents and carers. The relationships are trusting, open and friendly. Parents are listened to, informed about the provision and have the opportunity to share information about their child.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The group were required to develop the complaints procedure. This action has been achieved and parents are now clearly aware of various avenue's to take if they wish to raise concerns or complaints.

What is being done well?

- The premises are bright, warm, welcoming and well maintained. There is adequate play space and the children have regular access to gross motor play to promote their physical development.
- The staff have effective procedures in place to identify risks and promote safety, all appropriate precautions are taken to prevent accidents and injury to the children. Security and safety are well addressed and staff have good procedures in place to ensure the safe arrival and departure of children with the appropriate adult.
- All staff are first aid qualified, this ensures the well being of children in the event of an accident or an emergency. Effective procedures are in place to promote good hygiene practice and the children's good health.
- The staff have a consistent and relaxed approach to behaviour management. They use positive techniques such as reward, discussion, occasional time out, praising and encouraging the children, which encourages them to learn right from wrong and about acceptable behaviour.
- The staff have good relationships with the parents and work closely with them to ensure children's individual needs are addressed. Information is shared and updated regularly and staff have effective systems in place to ensure parents are fully aware of the policies and procedures of the crèche. Parents are happy with the care and service their children receive.

What needs to be improved?

- incident and existing injury recording.
- stimulation for children and children's self choice of play resources.

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	Plan a range of activities and provide enough suitable play opportunities for children's overall development and for them to have a stimulating environment.
14	Ensure incidents of behaviour and existing injuries are formally recorded.

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.