



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY278288

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/01/2005
Inspector Name Lynn Denise Smith

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name The Cherries Nursery
Setting Address Cherry Tree County Primary School
Holt Drive
Colchester
Essex
CO2 0BG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Ms Catherine House

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

The Cherries Nursery is one of three privately owned nurseries run and operated as an offshoot of the main nursery. It operates from a demountable classroom within the grounds of a local primary school in Colchester. A maximum of 22 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.45 to 11.45 during school term time. Children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 25 children on roll. Of these 16 receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local area. The nursery supports a small number of children with special needs and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs four staff. Three of the staff, including the room leader hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of staff is working towards a qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

The Cherries Nursery provides good quality care for children.

This is the nursery's first inspection since registration. There is a stable staff team, who work well together to offer children a safe and caring environment. The management of the nursery run and operate all three nursery sites as one; all policies and procedures are taken from the main nursery information and resources are rotated between the nurseries to provide a more exciting range of toys and play materials. The building is bright and attractive and staff plan to develop the outdoor area to provide more interesting learning opportunities. Records are clear and regularly reviewed with parents.

Staff follow well presented policies on health and safety and review working practices in accordance with the individual children's needs. Children are encouraged to develop good hygiene practices and actively participate in the welfare of the nursery's pet snails and fish. Children are provided with nutritious snacks and drinks and have the opportunity to help prepare fruit for snack time. Children sit in small groups for snack and can be heard chatting cheerfully to each other while enjoying their food. Clear procedures are in place for the protection of children and all staff have undertaken recent child protection training.

Children are able to choose from a good selection of toys and activities; the room is sectioned into four areas, each equipped with resources to encourage different aspects of learning. Children actively participate in role play situations and make good use of the dressing up clothes to imitate real life situations. Adults interact well with the children, extending their language by introducing new words and asking the children questions about their play. A positive behaviour management policy is in place, based on the individual children's needs.

Staff have developed a good working relationship with the parents, information about the child's day is shared effectively.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Children are able to make choices over their play from a large selection of well presented toys and activities; adults interact well with the children, encouraging their independence and developing secure, caring relationships.
- A very good range of toys and resources are available to the children; these are well presented, interesting and offer appropriate challenges.
- Children are provided with a range of nutritious snacks and drinks and are encouraged to participate in the preparation for snack time.
- Staff use positive language with the children, encouraging them to build caring relationships with each other through role play and good role models.

What needs to be improved?

- the continued development of the outdoor classroom, to provide a wider range of learning opportunities in the garden and outdoor areas.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
4	Continue to develop the learning opportunities in the outdoor area to fully utilise the outdoor classroom.

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.