



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 219958

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/10/2004
Inspector Name Andrea Ewer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Pattishall Pre-School Playgroup
Setting Address School Road
Astcote
Towcester
Northamptonshire
NN12 8NN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Pattishall Pre-School 1032304

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Pattishall Pre-School
Address The Village Hall, School Road
Astcote
Towcester
Northamptonshire
NN12 8NN

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

Pattishall Pre-School Playgroup is a committee run group. It has been open for over 20 years, and operates from two areas in the village hall. The playgroup is situated in the village of Pattishall in Northamptonshire and serves the local area.

There are currently 19 children on roll, of these 17 receive funding for nursery education. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery supports children who have special educational needs, and also children who speak English as an additional language.

The playgroup is open each weekday from 09:15 to 12:15 during term-time.

Three staff work with the children. Two of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Pattishall Pre-school playgroup provides satisfactory care to children. Staff work well as a team and provide a welcoming environment for children and their families, however, the operational plan is currently being updated and was not available for inspection. The good use of space promotes children's welfare, and staff are deployed effectively. Most records are in place, however the management committee have not notified the regulator of a change to staff.

Generally good attention is given to keeping children safe. However staff have a limited understanding of the child protection procedures and children are exposed to some hazards on the premises. Hygiene standards are well maintained, and children learn about personal hygiene through the regular daily routines.

A wide range of stimulating, toys and activities, that meets children's play and development needs is provided. Children use resources confidently and play well together. Staff help children to feel valued, and develop their self-esteem by interacting warmly and consistently with them. As a result children understand what is expected of them and are well behaved. Staff are able to support children who have special educational needs and have recently developed good systems to identify and meet all children's individual needs.

Staff have good relationships with parents. Some useful information about the setting is displayed, and information about children is exchanged regularly. This

ensures that parents are kept informed about their children's progress, and that appropriate care is given. Written comments from parents show that they are happy with the standard of care provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the management agreed to carry out a risk assessment of the premises and to review it if there are any significant changes, ensure that fresh drinking water is available, that food preparation areas, and those responsible for handling and preparing food comply with environmental health and food safety regulations. A risk assessment was carried out, however this was not available for inspection. Children's good health is now promoted satisfactorily as two members of staff hold the food hygiene certificate and prepare food in line with environmental health and food safety regulations. Fresh drinking water is available and provided to children during each session.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide a welcoming environment to children and their families. Useful information, posters and photographs are attractively displayed, and the premises are clean and tidy.
- A stimulating range of activities and resources, that provides challenge and children enjoy, is provided. Children use resources confidently and staff support their learning through planning activities that helps children build on skills and move on to the next stage in their learning.
- Children respond well to staff's warm and consistent interaction. They understand what is expected of them and behave well.

What needs to be improved?

- the arrangements to ensure that the regulator is notified of any staff changes
- the operational plan, to ensure all required policies and procedures are in place, and show how staff's continuing training needs are to be met
- develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues
- safety, by ensuring regular risk assessments are carried out and that hazards to children are minimised with regard to the storage of the curtain behind the wall mounted electric heater
- documentation, by ensuring there is written parent's consent to seek emergency medical treatment or advice, and to administer medicine, and by keeping a record of any medicine given to children.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
14	Ensure that you inform Ofsted of any relevant changes, including changes in staff.	12/11/2004
14	Devise a procedure for lost or uncollected children.	12/11/2004
14	Obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children, and keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children	12/11/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	Make sure the operational plan is in place and available for inspection.
6	Ensure that hazards on the premises are minimised by removing the curtains behind the wall mounted electric fire, and by carrying out regular risk assessments.
7	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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.