



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 145858

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 07/04/2003  
Inspector Name Jan Healey

### SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name Dilton Marsh Pre School  
Setting Address The Old Junior School, High Street  
Westbury  
Wiltshire  
BA13 4DY

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Ms Vicki Hallam

## 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

Dilton Marsh pre-school has been registered since 1993. It is situated in a village in West Wiltshire, occupying an old Victorian school. The building is adjacent to the village primary school. The pre-school occupies all but two rooms in this single storey building, which also has two enclosed gardens. A committee of parents and staff provide an umbrella to share the many supporting roles and fund raising of this registered charity. The pre school is a member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance. The pre school runs during school term time from Monday to Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The group is managed by an experienced play leader who holds an early childhood qualification and has responsibility for three other members of staff, one of whom holds an early childhood qualification and two who are currently studying towards a qualification. The pre school is registered to provide care for 24 three to five year old children. There are currently 27 children on the register with 15 children attending five sessions per week, and 12 attending on a part-time basis. There are 16 funded three year old children and four funded four year old children.

### How good is the Day Care?

Dilton Marsh provides satisfactory care for children. A warm and welcoming environment for both children and parents is provided. A key worker system is in operation, with each member of staff taking responsibility for a group of children and for liaising with each child's parent. An operational plan ensures that contingencies for staff absence do not affect children's progress. The ratio of adults to children currently exceeds the requirements. Documentation, records and policies are maintained. Safety issues are addressed in a written risk assessment which is displayed and known to the staff. Children are not always ensured of their privacy, as a toilet door is currently missing. Children are provided with regular drinks and a snack adequate for their needs. Children encouraged to adopt good hygiene practices. Staff promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children. Staff are aware that there are some children who have special needs, and attempt to work in partnership with parents to provide consistent care. Staff believe that all children are individuals who develop at different stages, and plan a suitable timetable of activities children can enjoy throughout the session. Staff show kindness and caring towards the children. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged, with staff praising and endorsing desirable behaviour. Rules are applied consistently and any reoccurring problems are discussed with parents. Staff recognise parents as the first educators of their children and work with them to ensure they are informed about the provision and their children's progress.

**What has improved since the last inspection?**

At the last inspection the group were asked to carry out a risk assessment, ensure Ofsted are notified of any changes and to keep a record of visitors. A risk assessment has been conducted on the premises, identifying action(s) to be taken to minimize identified risks. Ofsted are notified of any significant events or changes. All visitors to the pre school are now requested to sign a visitors book.

**What is being done well?**

The high adult: child ratio exceeds the number of staff required, maximising the efficiency of staff working directly with children. (Standard 2) The staff are kind and caring towards the children.(Standard 3) Behaviour management is consistently applied.(Standard 11) Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment (Standard 4)

**What needs to be improved?**

- the arrangements for providing children's privacy when using the toilet. (Standard 4)

**Outcome of the inspection**

Satisfactory

**WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?****The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
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**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
4	Ensure children's privacy when using the toilet.

## **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.*