



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY234739

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 06/02/2004
Inspector Name Noreen Elizabeth Appleby

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Little Feet Day Nursery
Setting Address Rose Cottage, Lanchester Road
Maiden Law, Lanchester
Durham
County Durham
DH7 0QU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Little Feet Day Nursery

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Little Feet Day Nursery
Address Rose Cottage
Lanchster Road
Maiden Law, Stanley
Co Durham
DH7 0QU

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

Little Feet Day Nursery has been registered since 2003. It operates from premises in Maiden Law, approximately one mile from Lanchester village. It serves the local community and surrounding areas.

There are currently ten children, aged from birth to under five years, on roll. Children usually attend regular sessions. There are no children who have special needs and the group does not presently support any children who speak English as an additional language.

The group operates from 07:00 to 19:00 throughout the year, including weekends and public holidays.

Six members of staff work regularly with the children. All have relevant child-care qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Little Feet Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. Management use effective employment and recruitment procedures to ensure staff are suitable for their roles and receive sufficient support. Premises are warm and welcoming. Areas are well equipped and rooms set out to provide an attractive, child-friendly environment for all. Sufficient staff work with the children. They make good use of space and resources to ensure children are well cared for, both indoors and out. Effective documentation systems have been set up. Comprehensive policies and procedures are drafted, communicated well, and incorporated into daily routines.

Consideration is given to health, safety and hygiene issues. Risk assessments are carried out, although some issues are still outstanding. However, staff take appropriate steps to keep children safe and promote good practice with children e.g. personal hygiene, tidying away to keep areas safe etc. A range of healthy meals and snacks is provided, suited to children's individual needs. Food handling procedures are practised and most issues are well met.

A broad range of play and learning resources is available. Areas are effectively set out to promote 'free choice' and independence. An additional room is currently being assessed for future use. Staff plan activities to provide good learning opportunities suitable for children's ages and ability. They interact positively with the children,

providing advice, encouragement and praise. Children relate well with staff and peers.

Sound working relationships have developed with parents. Information is regularly shared, both verbally and in written form, to ensure that children's individual needs are well met. Positive comments have been received from parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- Staff and management issues are very good. All staff are qualified and vetted before working with children. A performance management system has been introduced to ensure staff are well supported. They appear to work well as a team, are aware of their roles and responsibilities, and demonstrate enthusiasm and commitment to their work.
- The operational plan works well. Children are valued as individuals and included. They have opportunities to work individually and in small groups. Good use is made of space and resources and staff are well deployed. Effective registration procedures record staff, adults and children present at any time.
- Premises are bright, well-equipped and child-friendly. Notice boards and displays are attractively set out to give value to children's work and to share information with parents. Children are eager to learn and derive a great deal of enjoyment from exploring and choosing from the wide variety of play and learning opportunities available to them. Equal opportunities issues are well promoted.
- Positive behaviour management strategies are suitable for children's levels of understanding and maturity. They are consistently applied and understood by all. Staff work alongside the children offering support, encouragement and praise. Children are developing confidence and independence. They relate well with staff, adults and peers.
- Partnership with parents is very good. Children are cared for according to parents' wishes. Effective procedures are in place to keep parents updated about their children and group information. Comments from parents indicate that they are very happy with the quality of care provided.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures for ensuring children will be adequately supported when in main entrance area
- storage arrangements for cleaning equipment
- procedures for minimizing hazards identified in safety risk assessments

- procedures for verifying that qualified first aiders are present at all times
- practices for ensuring adequate temperature of re-heated foodstuffs.

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	devise and implement a procedure to demonstrate how children will be adequately supported when in main entrance area
4	ensure adequate storage arrangements for cleaning equipment.
6	ensure that, when risk assessments are used to identify potential hazards, action plans are implemented to minimize all identified risks
7	provide documentary evidence that at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate will be on the premises or on outings at any one time
8	ensure practices confirm adequate temperature of re-heated foodstuffs

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.