



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305301

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/01/2005
Inspector Name Sue Anslow

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Sessional Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Smallworld Pre-School
Setting Address Leftwich Primary School
Old Hall Road
Northwich
Cheshire
CW9 8DH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Sharon Walton

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

Smallworld Preschool and Link Club is one of six groups owned by Smallworld Preschools and Link Clubs Ltd. It opened in 2001 and operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of a school. A maximum of 22 children may attend the Preschool at any one time and 24 children may attend the Out of School Club at any one time. The Preschool is open each weekday from 09:00 to 11:30 and 12:15 to 14:45 term time only. The Link Club is open from 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:00 to 18:00 during term time and 08:00 to 18:00 during school holidays, if required. All children share access to a secure outside play area.

There are currently 45 children aged from two and a half to five years on roll in the preschool. Of these 29 children receive funding for nursery education. There are currently 20 children on roll aged from five years in the link club. The nursery currently supports a number of children with special educational needs.

The preschool and link club employs nine staff. All but one hold appropriate early years qualifications and three staff are working towards basic or higher level qualifications.

The setting is a member of the Preschool Learning Alliance and receive support from a teacher from the the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Smallworld Preschool and Link Club provides good care for children.

The team of qualified and experienced staff organise the group well and records are kept as required. The environment is warm and welcoming and provides ample play space for the numbers of children attending. A wide range of safe and suitable equipment is available to interest and stimulate children's learning and imagination.

Attention to children's health and safety is good, healthy snacks and drinks are provided and children who stay all day bring their own lunch. Good hygiene is practiced and encouraged. Staff demonstrated good knowledge of child protection procedures. Equality of opportunity is promoted well and staff are experienced in the care and support of children with special needs.

A wide range of activities are provided at every session, both indoors and outside.

Staff know the children well and interact warmly and attentively with them. Plans are devised to cover all required areas of learning and staff extend children's experiences with appropriate questions and comments. Children's behaviour is good and staff praise behaviour, efforts, achievements, kindness and helpfulness.

The relationship with parents is good. Ideas and views are welcomed and respected and any concerns shared immediately.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The wide range of activities provided promotes children's development in all areas of learning. Children have freedom of movement during each session to experience all the activities available, to join in with organised activities or make up their own games.
- Staff interact with children well, respecting individual needs and feelings. They observe and participate when required, ask questions and make suggestions to extend learning, and praise and encourage efforts and achievements. The environment is warm and welcoming with displays of children's art work around the room. The wide range of suitable play equipment provided also helps create an accessible and stimulating environment.
- The attention to individual needs and requirements is good. A wide range of resources are available which help children understand each others similarities and differences, festivals are celebrated and children with special needs are welcomed and included into the group.
- Partnership with parents is valued and promoted through daily communication, both written and verbal. Parents are given copies of the groups policies and procedures, particular wishes and requirements are respected and confidentiality maintained.

What needs to be improved?

- help children to further develop their language.

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 since April 2004.

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	provide resources and activities which helps children develop their language skills.

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.