



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY232048

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 27/08/2003
Inspector Name Charlotte Jenkin

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Heathcote House Nursery School
Setting Address The Green
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 5AA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Heathcote House Nursery School

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Heathcote House Nursery School
Address Heathcote House, Southbroom Road
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 5AA

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

Heathcote House Nursery School is situated in Devizes. It is in a house which has been adapted to cater for children aged three months to five years. The Nursery is registered to care for 15 children aged three months to two years and 45 children aged three to five years. The Nursery is open all year round except for a week at Christmas and Bank Holidays, from 08.00 to 18.00 hours. The baby unit has two rooms dedicated to play and a further two rooms for rest and play activities. The main Nursery has a main play room, a quiet room for more advanced teaching activities and a smaller play room for the younger children. There is a fully equipped kitchen where meals are prepared for the children and suitable toilet and wash facilities, as well as a staff room. The Principal is a qualified teacher and the majority of the remaining staff have appropriate childcare qualifications, four at level three and three at level two.

How good is the Day Care?

Heathcote House Nursery provides satisfactory care for children.

The Nursery provides a welcoming and child friendly environment where space is well organised to meet the needs of the children. There is plenty of space, children are grouped appropriately and adult to child ratios are high. The staff have relevant qualifications and regularly attend training to update their knowledge within childcare. A registration system is in place, but does not currently show the hours of attendance for all children and visitors.

There are effective arrangements for ensuring the premises are safe on a daily basis and regular fire drills are practised, although there are no operational procedures for outings and electrical equipment is not regularly tested. The Nursery offers freshly cooked healthy and nutritious meals and snacks and arrangements to ensure staff are aware of children's dietary needs are good. Medication consent forms and records are in place, however parents do not acknowledge entries.

Staff provide a good range of stimulating activities that cover all areas of development. Children are interested in the activities available, are engaged in their play and staff talk to and listen to them; they are confident in their care. Staff have an understanding of the Equal Opportunities policy, all children are included and their individual needs met. There is a good range of resources to promote Equal Opportunities in children's daily play. The SENCo works closely with parents and

other professionals to ensure the needs of children with special educational needs are met and to provide consistency of care. Staff adapt activities to enable all children to participate. Staff understand the behaviour management policy and consistently role model positive behaviour skills.

Staff and parents exchange information about the setting and their children and the Nursery has an open house policy. Staff respect parents wishes regarding the care of their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting agreed to develop an effective key worker system; provide warm water for hand washing; carry out a new risk assessment of the premises; keep written records of medication administered to children with parents acknowledging entries; ensure that children have drinking water available at all times; give parents written information about the setting; ensure parents have a complaints procedure which includes Ofsted's address; and ensure parents have ready access to their child's developmental records.

A key worker system is now in place which ensures staff know which children they are responsible for keeping records on. Warm water is now available in the children's wash basins to ensure hygiene practices are suitable and risk assessments are now reviewed termly as well as visual daily checks being in place to reduce risks to the children. Written records of medication administered are now kept, however parents do not acknowledge medication administered to their children. Drinking water is available to the children at all times and parents are given detailed information about the setting in the form of a prospectus.

The written complaints procedure includes Ofsted's contact details so parents know the procedure in the event of a complaint. Parents are informally told that they are able to access their child's developmental records.

What is being done well?

- The Nursery provides a good range of stimulating activities for the children that cover all areas of development. Children are interested in the activities available and are engaged in their play. Staff talk and listen to the children and they are confident in their care.
- The Nursery provides a welcoming environment and child friendly environment where space is well organised to meet the needs of the children. There is plenty of space for the number of children, they are grouped appropriately and adult: child ratios are high.
- The Nursery offers freshly cooked meals and snacks which are healthy and nutritious and there are good arrangements to ensure staff are aware of children's dietary needs.
- Staff have an understanding of the Equal Opportunities Policy and ensure all children are included and their individual needs are met. The Nursery has a good range of resources to promote Equal Opportunities in children's daily

play.

- The SENCo works closely with parents and other professionals to ensure the needs of children with special educational needs are met and liaise with other childcare workers to provide consistency of care. Staff adapt activities to enable all children to participate.
- Staff understand the behaviour management policy and consistently role model positive behaviour skills to the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the registration system to ensure the times of arrival and departure are recorded for all children and visitors;
- operational procedures for outings to ensure children's safety;
- arrangements for testing electrical equipment regularly to ensure they are safe;
- the system for recording medication administered to include parents acknowledgement of medication administered to their 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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	Ensure times of arrival and departure of all children and visitors are recorded.
6	Ensure there are suitable operational procedures for outings in place.
6	Ensure that electrical equipment is tested regularly.
7	Ensure parents acknowledge medication administered to children.

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.