



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY289988

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	06/01/2005
Inspector Name	Alison Edwards

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	The What Cabin
Setting Address	Willow Street St Matthews Estate Leicester LE1 2HP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	St Matthews Children's Action Group 4868987 1104170
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	St Matthews Children's Action Group
Address	The What Cabin Willow Street St Matthews Estate Leicester LE1 2HP

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

The What Cabin re-registered under its current management structure in 2004. It is a registered charity run by St Matthew's Children's Action Group. It operates from a single-storey cabin with kitchen, office and toilet facilities in a public park on the St Matthew's estate near Leicester city centre. It offers out of school care primarily to families in the immediate neighbourhood. It does not have a secure sole-use outdoor play area, but children make supervised use of the public park with written parental consent.

The cabin opens from Monday to Friday throughout the year. Hours of operation are from 15:00 to 17:30 during school terms and from 09:00 to 17:00 during school holidays. Children attend a variety of sessions. The cabin is registered for a maximum of 24 children from 5 to under 8 years at any one time, although also accepts older children. There are currently 60 children on roll of whom 56 are under 8 years. Children aged under eight years may not attend on an open access basis, to mean that they are not permitted to arrive or leave unless accompanied by an agreed adult.

Including the project manager there are 10 childcare staff, 9 of whom hold recognised relevant qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

The What Cabin provides good quality care for children. The premises are suitably maintained, although provide limited space for children under eight years, when older children are present. Supervised outings to the adjacent public park provide scope for outdoor physical play. Equipment and resources are generally in good order and suitable to children's interests and needs. Required records are methodically maintained to provide readily accessible information to support the running of the group. Adult:child ratios are maintained but qualification requirements are not fully met. Procedures to be followed if a child is lost are not established.

There are good systems to review and minimise potential safety hazards. Health and hygiene arrangements are generally suitable, and staff are aware of information relating to children's individual health and care needs. Snack provision has been improved to help promote healthy and balanced eating. Positive strategies are being developed to encourage recognition and respect for individual differences and diverse cultures and lifestyles. Staff recognise their child protection responsibilities,

however the written child protection policy lacks certain specific detail.

Staff give high priority to helping children build positive relationships and develop their self-esteem. Children often show sustained interest in their activities and are confident and relaxed in their dealings with adults and peers. Positive and consistent expectations for behaviour are established, and children begin to show awareness of their own and each others' feelings.

Parents are able to contribute to the running of the group through involvement in the management committee. Display boards provide extensive information about the group's procedures, policies and the wider childcare and community issues. Information on children's needs, routines and activities is shared through use of detailed registration forms, newsletters and informal discussion.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- Safety aspects receive careful attention, for example through systematic use of risk assessments to identify and minimise potential risks.
- Records, such as children's contact and health details, and up-to-date evidence of staff clearances, are kept methodically to ensure relevant information is readily accessible to support the running of the setting
- Children often show confidence in their dealings with others and sustained interest and enjoyment in their activities. Staff spend time talking and listening to them about their experiences, feelings and ideas, helping them develop their own self esteem and respect the feelings of others.
- Clear policies on behaviour management help support staff in establishing consistent and positive expectations for behaviour. Children show understanding of these in their conversation and dealings with each other, beginning to show an awareness of the impact of their actions and words on others.
- Children are encouraged to recognise and respect diversity in culture, language, religion and lifestyle.

What needs to be improved?

- arrangements to ensure the named deputy has appropriate qualifications to take charge in the absence of the manager
- establishment of written procedures to be followed in the event of a child being lost
- arrangements to ensure minimum toileting facilities and space requirements are maintained for children under eight years

- development of appropriate written procedures to be followed in the event of any child protection allegations against staff

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.

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
2	Ensure there is a named deputy with appropriate qualifications to take charge in the absence of the manager.
2	Establish written procedures to be followed in the event of a child being lost.
4	Review arrangements to maintain specified minimum toileting facilities and minimum space ratios for children aged under eight years.
13	Ensure the child protection policy includes procedures to be followed in the event of any child protection allegation against staff.

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.