



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 400187

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	26/08/2003
Inspector Name	Ingrid Szczerban

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Creche Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	Harry's Place
Setting Address	Ripon Leisure Centre Dallamires Lane Ripon North Yorkshire HG4 1TT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Harrogate Borough Council
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Harrogate Borough Council
Address	Brandreth House St. Lukes Avenue Harrogate North Yorkshire HG1 2AA

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

Ripon Leisure centre has a creche and a playscheme operating within the building. Staff in the creche are appropriately qualified, three to level 3 and two to level 2.

Harry's Place Crèche, formerly known as Ripon Leisure Centre Creche, is run by Harrogate Borough Council, and opened in 1994. The creche cares for the children of clients using the leisure centre facilities. There is a crèche leader supported by 4 crèche workers. The leader is a qualified teacher and 2 of the staff hold NVQ level 3 qualifications. The remaining staff are qualified to level 2. The creche operates mornings only throughout the year, in a room specifically for the crèche within the leisure centre. The creche is registered to care for 15 children under 5 of whom not more than 9 may be under 2 years of age.

Ripon Leisure Centre Play scheme is also run by Harrogate Borough Council. It serves the local area. The scheme is open-access, however, systems are in place to ensure that children are collected by authorised persons. The play scheme is managed by a co-ordinator, who has a team of staff working in the centre. The sports hall, the bar/lounge and a dance studio are used by children and outdoor play is available in the grounds. Members of the public use the leisure centre during session times. Children are supervised to the toilet and in transit around the building. The play scheme operates most school holidays. Opening times are Monday to Friday 09:30-17:30 hrs. It is registered to care for 45 children aged 4-8 years, children up to the age of 12 years attend. There are 13 members of staff who work on a rota basis in the play scheme, the level of qualification of the person in charge is proposed as a relevant qualification; 4 staff are qualified in first aid.

How good is the Day Care?

Ripon Leisure Centre Play Scheme and Harry's Place Creche provide satisfactory care for children.

The space available is used appropriately. Age appropriate activities are organised generally, however, there are insufficient separate activities for younger children in the play scheme. There is insufficient supervision for play scheme children when visiting the toilets, as the building is used by members of the public during session times. Registers are accurate and up to date. Children in the creche have free access to their toys which are stored at child height. There is an appropriate

seperate area for babies in the creche

Generally, staff have a sound awareness of safety issues. Inclusive play sessions for children with special needs are offered in the play scheme and additional staff are used on these days. Resources for reflecting equality of opportunity are limited. Adequate attention is given to health and hygiene, however, some of the accident records are lacking in sufficient detail and parents are not requested to countersign medication records. Creche staff promote good hygiene practice. The arrangements for meals and snacks are satisfactory. There are adequate child protection procedures in place, but the arrangements for sharing these duties with parents of play scheme children, are to be improved.

Staff are interested in the children talking and listening to them. Babies receive good emotional support. Staff use appropriate strategies to manage children's behaviour. Children are well-behaved. The range and balance of toys is satisfactory. Special needs children receive adequate support, and are included appropriately in the play scheme.

Parents are given adequate written information; relationships with parents are positive and parent's wishes are followed.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the following actions were agreed; to ensure there is a system for registering staff attendance on a daily basis; to provide an action plan to ensure that at least half the staff hold a level 2 qualification; to ensure the complaints procedure includes the address and telephone number of the regulator; to ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and facilities which promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice; to devise a procedure to be followed in the event of a child being lost; to ensure information about activities provided for children is given to parents; to devise a policy understood by staff and discussed with parents regarding the administration of medication; to provide an action plan to ensure there is a person in charge who has a level 3 qualification appropriate to the post.

A daily staff register is now kept; there is no requirement for the play scheme staff to have at least half the staff qualified to level 2, as it is open-access. Staff in the creche are appropriately qualified. The complaints procedure now includes the address and telephone number of the regulator. Some resources which promote equality of opportunity and anti discriminatory practice have been acquired for the creche and the play scheme but these are limited and do not yet include disability; therefore it is recommended that this provision be further enhanced. There is now a satisfactory written procedure to follow in the event of a child being lost. Parents now receive satisfactory information about activities in the 'hotspots' brochure and on posters on the walls.

There is now a satisfactory policy on the administration of medication which is shared with staff on the Council's training course and written in the parent's pack. However, the form to be completed in such an event does not request parent's

countersignature yet.

The level of qualification of the person in charge is being reviewed.

What is being done well?

- Registers are accurate and up to date.
- There is positive staff/child interaction, babies receive good emotional support.
- Staff demonstrate satisfactory awareness of safety issues, children are reminded to tie shoe laces and tidy away sports equipment.
- Children with special needs are included appropriately in the playscheme and additional staff are used to support them.
- Staff use appropriate strategies for managing children's behaviour, giving explanations to them and praising their efforts.
- Parents are given adequate written information about the scheme and the creche. Relationships with parents are positive and daily verbal feedback is given. There are adequate systems in place to ensure parent's wishes are followed.

What needs to be improved?

- the implementation of the procedure to ensure play scheme children are safe when visiting the toilets;
- the arrangements for requesting parents to countersign records of any medication given to children;
- the organisation of more activities for the younger play scheme children; the arrangements for recording sufficient detail in the accident book; the arrangements for ensuring all aspects of equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice are reflected in the resources available for children; the arrangements for sharing with parents of the play scheme children, the staff's duty to report any child protection concerns.

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 must take the following actions by the date shown		
Std	Action	Date
4	produce an action plan to demonstrate how the procedure to ensure the safety of play scheme children visiting the toilets, is implemented effectively.	26/08/2003
7	ensure parents are requested to countersign medication records.	26/08/2003

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection	
Std	Recommendation
2	organise more separate activities for the younger children in the play scheme
7	increase the amount of detail recorded in the accident book.
9	provide more resources which promote equality of opportunity, especially disability.
13	improve the arrangements for sharing child protection duties with the parents of play scheme 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.