

**NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARDS
FOR CRÈCHES**

WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

A statement of national minimum standards applicable to providers of crèches made by the Minister for Health and Social Services of the Welsh Assembly Government under the powers conferred by section 79 C of the Children Act 1989.

Signed



**Minister for Health and Social Services
Welsh Assembly Government**

12 November 2003

The statement is applicable to providers of day care (as defined by section 79A of the Children Act 1989) from November 2003.

The statement is accompanied, for explanatory purposes only, by an introduction.

INTRODUCTION NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PROVIDERS OF CRÈCHES

- 1. This document sets out National Minimum standards for providers of crèches issued by the Welsh Assembly Government under section 79C of the Children Act 1989. These standards will be used by the Assembly's Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales (CSIW) when determining whether providers of crèches are providing adequate care for children under the age of eight and are otherwise complying with the relevant requirements. It replaces the equivalent National Minimum Standards previously in force. The standards will be kept under review and may be amended as appropriate.**
- 2. The relevant requirements are set out in the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2002 ("the Regulations") and in the Children Act 1989 ("the 1989 Act"), as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000. When CSIW exercise its functions under Part XA**

of the 1989 Act any allegations that a provider has failed to have regard to the standards must be taken into account. Similar consideration will apply where the relevant Tribunal exercises functions under the new provisions and in other formal proceedings under that part of 1989 Act.

3. It is hoped that these standards will be used for a range of purposes, and not just as part of the regulatory process. They may be used by providers of crèches in considering the standard of care provided, as an aid in the induction and training of staff and to provide guidance when a person wishes to provide a crèche. They may also be used by parents as a guide to what they should expect of providers of crèches.
4. The Regulations are made and these standards (which are referred to in the Regulations) are published under section 79C of the 1989 Act. They will apply from 1st April 2002, as the provisions of the Regulations apply, unless otherwise stated.
5. The 1989 Act as amended confers on the National Assembly the function of registration authority in relation to child minders and day care providers as well as enabling regulations and standards to be made. Compliance with the regulations and the extent to which child minders or day care providers, as the case may be, have had regard to the standards, will be taken into account by CSIW in making judgements about applications for registration, the imposition of conditions and enforcement of compliance with the 1989 Act, including decisions about cancellation of registration or prosecution. Decisions of CSIW in the exercise of its registration functions may be appealed to an independent tribunal.
6. The standards focus on achievable outcomes for children under the age of eight and their parents. They are grouped under a series of key topics. Each standard deals with a particular aspect and is preceded by a statement of the outcome intended to be achieved by the child minder or day care provider, as the case may be. The regulations and standards have been designed to promote the achievement of that outcome.
7. The “standard” dealing with a particular aspect of care provision is actually made up of a set of standards, which are the numbered paragraphs beneath the “outcome” box. Each of these numbered paragraphs should be treated as a separate standard. The standards are intended to be qualitative, in that they provide a tool for judging the quality of care provision for under eight’s but they are also designed to be measurable. In some cases, to ease comprehension, the standards repeat certain requirements of the regulations. This should not be taken to mean that the particular regulatory requirement is altered in nature – the provisions of the regulations must still all be met.

- 8. Inspecting against the regulations and standards, CSIW will follow a consistent inspection methodology and reporting format across the country. In assessing whether or not a provider of a crèche meets a particular regulatory requirement, CSIW will consider compliance with each of the standards.**
- 9. It is intended that these standards will be used, both by providers of crèches and CSIW to focus on securing positive welfare outcomes for children under eight and reducing risks to their welfare and safety, rather than upon structures and systems for their own sake. All providers of crèches and their staff should aim to provide the best care possible for the children they look after and having regard to the standards is an essential part, but only a part, of the overall responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of each individual child.**
- 10. The standards have been prepared following an extensive consultation programme. Account has been taken of responses to the consultation in developing the final version of the standards. The standards are intended to be realistic, proportionate, fair and transparent.**

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CRÈCHES

Definition

Crèches are facilities that provide occasional day care for children under eight and are provided on particular premises on more than five days a year. They need to be registered where they run for more than two hours a day, even where individual children attend for shorter periods. Some are in permanent premises and care for children while parents are engaged in particular activities, e.g. shopping or sport. Others are established on a temporary basis to care for children while their parents are involved in time-limited activities, e.g. a conference or exhibition.

Whenever the word “parent” is used in this document, it should be taken to mean parent or carer.

CHOICE OF SERVICE

STANDARD 1: INFORMATION

OUTCOME

Parents have access to the information they need in order to make an informed choice about the type of crèche facility they require.

1.1 The registered person makes available sufficient information to parents to enable them to make an informed decision.

1.2 The registered person compiles a statement of purpose as set out in the regulations, and provides written and verbal information to prospective parents about the service they provide. This will include:

- numbers and ages of children for whom they can care
- the languages through which they will provide care
- whether they can look after children with special needs
- admissions policy
- opening hours
- contact information
- staffing
- routines
- information about activities provided for children
- information about the registration and collection system
- arrangements for making complaints to the registered person, and to the Care Standards Inspectorate Wales.

PLANNING FOR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND PREFERENCES

STANDARD 2: SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

OUTCOME

Parents know that the registered person is able to provide for their child's special needs; this could include special educational needs and disabilities.

2.1 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.

2.2 Registered persons have a written statement about special needs which is consistent with legislation and current Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs. It includes both special educational needs and disabilities. It is available to parents.

2.3 Staffing arrangements are designed to meet the needs of individual children who attend and have special needs.

- 2.4 The physical environment is, as far as is reasonable, suitable for children with disabilities.
- 2.5 Children with special needs attending day care have access alongside their peers to the facilities, activities and play opportunities provided whenever reasonable, in order to promote their welfare and development.
- 2.6 Registered persons consult with parents about the need for any special services and equipment for the children in their care.
- 2.7 Registered persons ensure the privacy of all children when intimate care is being provided.

STANDARD 3:WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

OUTCOME

Parents are kept fully informed about their child's activities and development.

- 3.1 The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group.
- 3.2 The registered person ensures that parents receive information on the policies and procedures operating within the setting.
- 3.3 The registered person shares with parent's details about what their child has achieved during the day, and any significant event or changes in behaviour.
- 3.4 Any volunteers and committee members are given full information and guidance on their roles and responsibilities.
- 3.5 Staff are aware of the need to maintain privacy and confidentiality about matters concerning families and children, and are aware of the need to share information appropriately, in, for example, child protection cases.
- 3.6 Records are kept containing details about the child. Parents have access to all written records about their children.
- 3.7 Children are only released from the care of the provision to individuals named by the parents.

STANDARD 4: RECORDS

OUTCOME

Parents and the CSIW have access as appropriate to a full range of records maintained by the registered person for the smooth running of the setting.

- 4.1 The registered person maintains a full range of detailed records.

4.2 The registered person keep records as set out in the Regulations on:

- the name, address, date of birth and sex of all children looked after in the provision
- the contact details for all parents/those with parental responsibility.
- daily records of attendance
- names, addresses and telephone numbers of the registered person, the responsible individual and staff
- daily register of staff attending
- a record of accidents, serious illnesses and other significant events
- a record of any medicines administered

4.3 Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent, except where this would place the child's welfare at risk.

4.4 The registered person keeps records about individual children confidential, and retains them for a period of at least three years after the last date on which the children attended. The registered person maintains records in line with the terms of their insurance cover.

4.5 The records are always available for inspection by the CSIW.

4.6 The CSIW is informed of the following at the earliest opportunity:

- any changes in the officers of the body running the setting, the person in charge, members of staff and people living on the premises;
- any change in the name or home address of any of the above;
- any significant changes to the premises or any change of address;
- any significant changes to the type of care or in the hours in which care is provided ;
- any infectious disease, serious injury or death;
- allegations of serious harm or abuse by a member of staff or volunteer or any abuse which is alleged to have taken place on the premises;
- any other significant event likely to affect the suitability of the registered person, or likely to affect the welfare of the child.

4.7 The registered person asks the parent or adult collecting the child to sign the record of any accidents, to acknowledge the entry.

4.8 The registered person retains a copy of the most recent inspection report from CSIW, and where applicable Estyn, together with resultant action plans. These documents are available to parents.

QUALITY OF LIFE

STANDARD 5: OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLAY AND LEARNING

OUTCOME

Children experience a range of activities that assist with their emotional, physical, social, intellectual, language and creative development.

5.1 Registered persons meet children's individual needs and promote their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social, creative and intellectual, including language, capabilities.

5.2 The registered person ensures resources appropriate to children of different ages are provided and organises them so that they are readily available.

5.3 The registered person and their staff offer support to children in the activities they choose. They listen to children and talk with them about what they are doing.

5.4 The registered person ensures all their staff help children to develop a sense of what is right and wrong.

5.5 The registered person ensures there are opportunities for children to rest as needed.

QUALITY OF CARE AND TREATMENT

STANDARD 6: BEHAVIOUR

OUTCOME

A child's behaviour is managed in such a way as to promote their welfare and development.

6.1 The registered person and any other adults caring for children are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way that promotes their welfare and development.

6.2 Registered persons produce a written policy on behaviour management, including bullying, which states the methods used to manage children's behaviour. This is fully understood and followed by all staff and available to parents.

6.3 Registered persons create an environment that encourages acceptable behaviour.

6.4 Adult handling of behaviour is consistent and developmentally appropriate, respecting individual children's level of understanding and maturity.

6.5 Physical punishments, or the threat of them, are not used. Children are never shaken, smacked, humiliated, shouted at, intimidated or shamed.

6.6 Adults do not use any form of physical intervention, e.g. holding, unless it is necessary to prevent personal injury to the child, other children, an adult or serious damage to property. Any incident is recorded and the parent informed of the incident on the day.

STANDARD 7: HEALTH CARE

OUTCOME

Children's health care needs are identified and addressed as appropriate by the registered person.

7.1 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.

7.2 The premises and equipment are clean.

7.3 The registered person ensures that staff are informed and aware of the importance of good hygiene practice in order to prevent the spread of infection. Staff are informed of and kept up to date with hygiene procedures.

7.4 The registered person ensures that any animals on the premises are safe to be in the proximity of children and do not pose a health risk.

7.5 Sandpits are protected from contamination and the sand is clean.

7.6 Those responsible for the preparation and handling of food are fully aware of and comply with regulations relating to food safety and hygiene.

7.7 There is a first aid box complying with the First Aid Regulations 1981. The contents are checked frequently and replaced as necessary by a designated member of staff. This is readily accessible to staff, but kept out of the reach of children.

7.8 There is at least one member of staff with a current first aid training certificate on the premises or on outings at any one time. The first aid qualification includes training in first aid for infants and young children.

7.9 Prior written parental permission is obtained to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment.

7.10 There is a policy about the exclusion of children who are ill or infectious which is shared with parents. This includes a procedure for contacting parents or another adult designated by the parent if a child becomes ill whilst in day care. The setting should notify parents if a child in the setting has been diagnosed as having an infectious disease.

7.11 There is no smoking within the crèche

STANDARD 8: MEDICATION

OUTCOME

Children are protected by the setting's policies and practices on medication and receive the medication they require from the registered person.

8.1 If the registered person administers medication to the child, she/he does so only following written agreement with the parent and with an understanding of the possible side effects of the medication.

8.2 The registered person has a clear policy, understood by all staff and discussed with parents, regarding the administration of medication.

8.3 If medication is to be given, the following practices should be followed:

- medicines are not usually administered unless they have been prescribed for that child by a doctor;
- medicines are stored in their original containers, are clearly labelled with the child's name and are inaccessible to children;
- checks are made to ensure that any medication received into the setting is not out of date;
- the parent gives prior written permission to administer any medication.

8.4 Written records are kept of all medicines administered to children, and parents sign the record book to acknowledge the entry. If appropriate, details of the exact time any current medication was last administered to the child are obtained.

8.5 If the administration of prescription medicines requires technical/medical knowledge then individual training is provided for staff from a qualified health professional. Training is specific to the individual child concerned;

8.6 The registered person has confirmed that the administration of medication conforms to their insurance cover.

STANDARD 9: FOOD AND DRINK

OUTCOME

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs.

9.1 The registered person ensures that children receive food and drink which is properly prepared, nutritious, and adequate in quantity, and which complies with dietary and religious requirements.

9.2 Fresh drinking water is available to children at all times.

9.3 All food is stored safely.

9.4 Children attending a temporary crèche all day are offered a midday meal or a packed lunch, which can be provided by parents. Parents are advised of what can be stored safely.

9.5 If food is provided, the registered person requests information from the parent about any special dietary requirements, preferences or food allergies the child may have. Where these exist, the registered person makes a record and takes heed of the information provided.

9.6 There are facilities for children to sit at tables for their meals.

STAFFING

STANDARD 10: SUITABLE PERSON

OUTCOME

Children's needs are fully met by the registered person and the adults looking after them.

10.1 The registered person ensures that adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

10.2 The registered person provides all information requested by the CSIW in order to establish their suitability and the suitability of their staff and volunteers, which will comply with the Regulations and include a police check. Normally all checks are completed before they commence working with children.

10.3 Exceptionally, where a member of staff begins employment before checks have been completed the registered person ensures that any person who has not been vetted is never left alone with children.

10.4 From 1 April 2008, the registered person ensures that the person in charge possesses at least a level 3 qualification within ACCAC's National Qualifications Framework for Early Years Education, Childcare and Playwork which is appropriate to the post. In the period until 1 April 2008, the registered person will set out an action plan detailing how they intend to meet this criterion and in what timescale.

10.5 The registered person ensures that at least half of all child care staff hold a level 2 qualification from ACCAC's National Qualifications Framework for Early Years Education, Childcare and Playwork appropriate to the post and to the age of the children. Where this cannot be achieved immediately, the registered person will set out an action plan detailing how they intend to meet this criterion and in what timescale. The CSIW will consider the plan and offer their approval or indicate aspects that need improvement.

10.6 Prior to their appointment, a person in charge has at least 2 years' experience of working in a day care setting.

10.7 The registered person ensures that all trainees under the age of 18 years are supervised at all times.

10.8 All staff are required to be mentally and physically capable of caring for children.

10.9 All staff are required to have the appropriate experience, skills and ability to do their jobs.

10.10 All staff receive induction training which includes health and safety and child protection policies and procedures during their first week of employment.

10.11 The continuing training needs of staff are addressed on a regular basis.

10.12 All paid staff receive regular supervision which encourages them to think about the quality of their practice. They receive formal appraisal at least once a year.

CONDUCT AND MANAGEMENT OF THE SERVICE

STANDARD 11: ORGANISATION

OUTCOME

Parents and children benefit from a well-organised and planned day care service.

11.1 The registered person ensures that they make the best use of the resources available to them.

11.2 The registered person demonstrates that staff are employed effectively within the premises to ensure the safety, welfare and development of children.

11.3 There is a named deputy who is able to take charge in the absence of the person in charge.

11.4 The size of a group never exceeds 26 children. A provision may include more than one group. Children belong to a key group, which has consistent staff.

STANDARD 12: STAFFING RATIOS

OUTCOME

Children's needs are met through a ratio of adults to children which conforms with best practice.

12.1 The registered person meets the required adult:child ratios.

12.2 The minimum staffing ratios are:

- one adult to three children under 2 years

- one adult to four children aged 2 years
- one adult to eight children aged 3 - 7 years.

These ratios include any children of staff or volunteers.

12.3 There is a minimum of two staff on duty.

12.4 The registered person ensures that suitable contingency arrangements are in place to cover emergencies and unexpected staff absences, and sufficient, suitable staff and volunteers to cover staff breaks, holidays, training, sickness and time spent with parents.

12.5 Any care provided for children aged eight to fourteen is not allowed to adversely affect the care provided for children under eight years of age.

12.6 There are adequate staff to ensure the security of any group of children which is constantly changing and give children the help they need to settle in. Regular volunteers and trainees can be taken into account in the normal staffing ratios.

STANDARD 13: EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

OUTCOME

All children receiving a service from a registered person are treated with equal concern and respect.

13.1 The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

13.2 The registered person has and periodically reviews an equal opportunities policy that is consistent with current legislation and guidance. All staff and volunteers understand and implement this policy and it is available to parents.

13.3 All children and adults are treated with equal concern and the registered person complies with relevant anti-discriminatory legislation and good practice. The registered person promotes equal opportunities with regard to employment, training, admission to day care and access to the resources, activities and facilities available.

13.4 The registered person liaises with parents to ensure that all children's records contain information which enables appropriate care to be given.

COMPLAINTS AND PROTECTION

STANDARD 14: COMPLAINTS

OUTCOME

Children and their parents are confident that their complaints will be listened to, taken seriously and acted on.

14.1 The registered person ensures that he/she operates a simple, clear and accessible complaints procedure.

14.2 The registered person has a written complaints procedure, which is available to parents and which includes details about how to contact the relevant office of the CSIW.

14.3 The registered person considers and/or investigates all complaints.

14.4 The registered person ensures that the complainant is notified of the outcome.

14.5 The registered person keeps an accurate and detailed record of all complaints, which includes the following information:

- name of complainant
- nature of complaint
- date and time of complaint
- action taken in response to complaint
- result of complaint investigation
- information given to complainant.

14.6 The registered person ensures that all complaints are handled in a sensitive and confidential manner.

STANDARD 15: CHILD PROTECTION

OUTCOME

Parents have the confidence that the registered person takes all reasonable steps to protect children from harm.

15.1 The registered person develops and implements a child protection policy which links into the 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 policy into practice.

15.2 The protection of the child is the registered person's first priority.

15.3 The registered person has a written statement which links into the arrangements of the local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures, clearly stating staff responsibilities with regard to the reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect and including contact names and telephone numbers. It includes procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer. These procedures are shared with parents before admission to day care.

15.4 The registered person ensures that:

- a designated member of staff has attended a child protection training course and is responsible for liaison with child protection agencies in any child protection situation;
- other staff are aware of child protection issues and are able to implement the policies and procedures.

15.5 The registered person ensures that all staff are aware of possible symptoms of children at risk and are aware of their responsibility to

- report concerns according to ACPC procedures without delay and
- keep concerns confidential to as few people as need to know.

THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

STANDARD 16: PREMISES

OUTCOME

The children receive a service in premises that are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose.

16.1 The registered person ensures that 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 that promote their development.

16.2 The premises are made welcoming and friendly to children and parents.

16.3 The premises are clean, well lit with adequate natural lighting, adequately ventilated and maintained in a suitable state of repair and decoration.

16.4 The registered premises are for the sole use of the crèche during the hours of operation.

16.5 The registered person ensures that local planning and building control requirements are met.

16.6 There is access to a telephone on the premises.

16.7 Rooms are maintained at a temperature of at least 18 degrees centigrade (65 degrees Fahrenheit).

16.8 The indoor playing space provides at least the following minimum per child:

under 2 years	3.7 sq. metres
2 years	2.8 sq. metres
3 - 7 years	2.3 sq. metres

16.9 Play areas are large enough to give scope for free movement and well spread out activities. There are separate areas for different activities.

16.10 There is adequate storage space for equipment.

16.11 If outdoor play space adjoining the premises is provided, it is safe, secure and well maintained.

16.12 There is a minimum of one toilet suitable for use by children and one wash hand basin with hot and cold water available for every 10 children over the age of two years.

STANDARD 17: EQUIPMENT

OUTCOME:

Children have access to furniture, equipment and toys that are appropriate and suitable for their needs

17.1 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.

17.2 The registered person ensures that sufficient, suitable toys and play materials are available to provide stimulating activities and play opportunities for the children in all areas of play, learning and development. These are appropriate for the ages and individual developmental needs of the children attending and promote their cultural awareness and equal opportunities.

17.3 Furniture, toys and equipment are in good repair and conform to BS EN safety standards or the Toys (Safety) Regulations where applicable. Where public, unsupervised playgrounds are used, registered persons ensure that the children do not use faulty equipment.

17.4 There are sufficient numbers of child-sized chairs and tables to allow flexible arrangements for groups of children to play and eat together.

STANDARD 18: SAFETY

OUTCOME

Children have their needs met in a safe environment.

18.1 The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

18.2 The registered person takes reasonable steps to ensure that hazards to children on the premises, both inside and outside, are minimised and is aware of, and complies with, health and safety regulations. Staff are trained to have an understanding of health and safety requirements for the environment in which they work.

18.3 The registered person conducts a risk assessment of the premises and this is reviewed if there is a significant change or if the provider suspects that it is no longer valid. An action plan with timescales identifies action to be taken to minimise identified risks.

- 18.4 Gas and electrical appliances are properly guarded and fittings conform to safety requirements and do not pose a hazard to children. Appropriate annual checks are carried out.
- 18.5 The premises and outside play area are secure and children are not able to leave unsupervised. The registered person ensures that staff have a system for managing access to the premises, and that it is used, and keeps a record of visitors.
- 18.6 Children are supervised at all times.
- 18.7 In large venues, there is easy access to security staff if required.
- 18.8 Ponds, drains, pools or any natural water, are made safe or inaccessible to children.
- 18.9 Any door fitted with glass should have safety glass or be covered with protective plastic film.
- 18.10 Hazardous indoor and outdoor plants are avoided or made inaccessible to children.
- 18.11 The registered person is fully informed about fire evacuation procedures for the whole building.
- 18.12 There are written procedures for emergency evacuation of the crèche from the building. These include any special measures to be taken where children are located above or below ground level, and are known to all staff. Fire drills are carried out periodically. Information on these matters is also provided to parents who stay on the premises. The registered person complies with any recommendations made by the fire safety officer and records are kept to their satisfaction.
- 18.13 Fire doors are not obstructed and fire exits are clearly identifiable and easily opened from the inside.
- 18.14 Adequate fire detection and control equipment is readily available.
- 18.15 The registered person ensures that there are operational procedures for the safe conduct of any outings provided. Records about vehicles in which children are transported, including insurance details and a list of named drivers, are kept. Drivers using their own transport have a valid licence, adequate insurance cover and a current MOT certificate where required.
- 18.16 The registered person carries public liability insurance for the provision.

Annexe A

Babies - Children under 2

These are additional criteria to be met by a registered person of group care who wishes to care for babies.

STAFFING

A.1 Registered persons ensure that:

- staff caring for babies are competent to do so
- at least 50% of staff caring for babies have received training in this specific area
- the person in charge of the babies' room has at least two years experience of working with children under two years.

ORGANISATION

A.2 Registered persons ensure that:

- children aged under two years are cared for in groups of no more than 12.

SAFETY

A.3 Registered persons ensure that:

- when in high or low chairs, children are restrained in safety harnesses;
- sleeping babies are frequently checked.

FOOD AND DRINK

A.4 Registered persons ensure that:

- feeding and nappy changing takes place in accordance with the child's individual needs and not as part of a nursery routine
- normally, babies are held whilst bottle feeding, preferably by the same carer
- an area is provided with access to drinking water and facilities for the hygienic preparation of babies' feeds
- suitable sterilisation equipment is used for babies' feeding equipment and dummies
- records are kept of babies' food intake for parents.

CARE AND LEARNING

A.5 Registered persons ensure that:

- children have the opportunity to interact with a consistent adult at frequent intervals
- children's individual sleeping routines are respected
- activities, toys and equipment are appropriate for the child's age and provide varied sensory opportunities and experiences.

PREMISES

A.6 Registered persons ensure that:

- there is a separate base room for children under two. However, they should be able to have contact with older children and can be transferred to an older group after they reach the age of 18 months if that is appropriate for their individual development
- nappy changing facilities are provided which meet environmental health standards
- quiet areas are provided to enable individual sleep patterns to be facilitated.