

Brampton Pre - School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	115236
Inspection date	20 November 2007
Inspector	David Curtis
Setting Address	Brampton Way, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 6YN
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Registered person	The Trustees of Portishead Playgroups
Type of inspection	Integrated
Type of care	Sessional care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE AND NURSERY EDUCATION

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are outstanding. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education are outstanding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Brampton Preschool is located in a single storey building within a residential area of Portishead. It is within walking distance of the town centre.

The preschool offers places to children from Portishead and surrounding areas. The pre-school provides sessional care for a maximum of 18 children aged between three and five years, from Monday to Friday 09:15 to 11:45 and 12:30 to 15:00 term time only. There are 63 children on roll of whom 58 are in receipt of nursery education funding.

The group is managed by a voluntary parent committee in partnership with another Portishead preschool. They also receive support from an advisory teacher through the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Staff are extremely proactive in supporting children's health, including their physical activity. Children are making excellent progress in their physical development supported by the very good range and excellent quantity of equipment. Children learn about keeping themselves healthy they bring items for home to show how they keep fit, including footballs, skipping ropes and swimming costumes. Children speak confidently about how such items help to keep them fit and healthy. The site is secure and safe for children. Children know the reasons why it is important to wash their hands before eating.

Children can access water readily which is available through the session. An excellent range of healthy snacks is available each day, these always include fruit, vegetables and milk. When soft fruit is provided, children are encouraged to help staff prepare this. During snack time, staff involve children in very good discussions as to why they need to eat fruit and vegetables. Discussions between staff and children about how fruits and vegetables are grown effectively support children's understanding of why it is important to eat a healthy and balanced diet. These discussions contribute to the very good progress children make in their knowledge and understanding of the world.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children thrive in the setting because it is warm, welcoming and provides them with an impressive range of activities to engage them in play and learning. The environment is excellent and has a significant impact on children's genuine enjoyment and love of learning. The inside space is used imaginatively and adapted on a daily basis to provide an impressive range of stimulating activities, including space to develop skills in jumping and landing correctly.

The outdoor play area is exciting, children play enthusiastically with an excellent range of toys, playground markings and role play buildings. The new sensory garden is having a significant impact on developing children's spiritual development; staff use it exceptionally well to promote children's use of their senses.

All areas are safe for children and monitored on a regular basis. Children develop an excellent awareness of keeping themselves safe, for example, when using tools such as scissors. Children are safeguarded. The comprehensive child protection policy is understood and adhered to by all staff, they are fully aware of actions they need to take should issues arise.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children are totally engrossed in play and enjoy all the setting has to offer. Activities are planned exceptionally well to promote children's development. Children have ample opportunities to explore materials in art and design activities extending and building on their very good creative development. The reading corner is attractive and welcoming and promotes a love of books and interest in reading.

Nursery education

The quality of teaching and learning is outstanding. There are significant strengths in the quality of planning and in the assessment of children's progress. In sessions, all staff make frequent and detailed notes of children's progress against each area of learning. This information is collated into learning profiles and used to plan activities to promote learning. At the end of the year, children's profiles are summarised as a record of progress, which is shared with parents. Parents really value receiving these documents. The link between key workers and their dedicated children is especially strong and has a significant impact on the outstanding progress children make in all areas of learning.

Staff readily engage children in discussion which contributes significantly to the very good progress in speaking and listening. Staff promote a love of reading and enjoy sharing stories with children, they readily ask questions to further children's vocabulary and understanding of what they read. Children are encouraged to write and most understand that marks convey meaning. Some children are beginning to write individual letters and attempt to write their own names. Through displays and puzzles, children explore numbers and number patterns, with many already counting to 20 and knowing that the number is written with a '2' and '0'.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Behaviour is exemplary because of the high quality of learning experiences provided. High quality plans ensure there is a balance of activities to foster independence and perseverance, alongside those which promote teamwork and co-operation. Children show patience and determination in finishing tasks, for example, a group who were making models. Similarly, children playing a game were determined to finish, but were willing to take turns and understood that there are winners and losers.

Children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is fostered. The sensory garden is used imaginatively by staff to develop children's senses. Children enjoying digging for 'treasure' and take great delight in finding conkers and acorns and discuss with staff how these will grow into trees. There was an immediate desire to plant seeds so that, 'we can grow really big trees'. Themed weeks, such as Diwali, enable children to celebrate and develop a very good awareness of other cultures.

The partnership with parents and carers in promoting nursery education is outstanding. The relationships with parents are highly effective in supporting and promoting children's all round development. Parent's value links with staff, including opportunities for consultations regarding their children's progress. The setting's website is very effective and used regularly by parents so that they can access all required policies, staff planning, weekly themes, newsletters and book places at the setting. Currently, there are no children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities however staff demonstrated a thorough understanding how to meet the needs of all children.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

The day-to-day organisation and management ensures that activities capture children's interest and enthusiasm as well as developing key skills in all areas of learning. The organisation and management of the outdoor provision, including the use of the sensory garden is particularly effective in fostering children's spiritual awareness'. The inside space is effectively organised

so that each area of learning has a dedicated area, which contributes successfully to children's outstanding progress.

Leadership and management of provision for nursery funded children is outstanding. It has a significant impact on the very good progress made by children in all areas of learning, especially taking into account their starting points. The Trustees meet regularly and are totally committed to providing the best possible resources to support children's play and learning. The Trustees ensure that staff are suitably qualified. The management of the key worker system is a significant strength because each key worker successfully plans, manages and assesses children's progress. The management and organisation of record keeping and assessment is exceptional. Staff hold regular meetings in which they review children's progress and revisit their planning so that themes can be amended to ensure children make very good progress in developing key skills.

All policies are reviewed regularly and are up-to-date. The Trustees play very close attention to changes in legislation and ensure policies are amended accordingly to effectively support children's safety and well-being. The setting meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection, the setting was asked to develop the key worker system to include all children and to provide a variety of healthy snacks. In addition, it was asked to develop a written statement about child protection to include procedures to follow in event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer and to ensure books and reference materials are freely available and their use is encouraged in activities, provide more adult support for children in early writing skills. Finally it was asked to offer more opportunities for children to explore and experiment with creative and modelling materials and to give them more opportunities to develop physical skills.

Inspection evidence shows that the setting has implemented fully all of the above recommendations and this has had a significant impact on promoting positive outcomes on children, which are now judged as outstanding.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

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The quality and standards of the nursery education are outstanding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

The quality and standards of the nursery education

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of nursery education are outstanding.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk