



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY231792

DfES Number: 8347

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/11/2004  
Inspector Name Janet Banham

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Promises Day Nursery  
Setting Address Wardgate Way  
Holme Hall  
Chesterfield  
Derbyshire  
S40 4SL

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Family Centres Ltd 3755596 1039535

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Family Centres Ltd  
Address 36 Highfield Avenue  
Chesterfield  
Derbyshire  
S41 7AX

## ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care in accordance with the National Standards for Under Eights Day Care and Childminding; and that the nursery education for funded three and four year old children is of an acceptable quality. Inspection of nursery education also identifies strengths and weaknesses so that providers can improve the quality of educational provision and help children to achieve the early learning goals (elgs) by the end of the Foundation Stage. This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

If the setting has been inspected previously, an action plan will have been drawn up to tackle issues identified. This inspection, therefore, must also assess what progress has been made in the implementation of this plan.

### Information about the setting

Promises Day Nursery was registered in 2003 and operates from purpose built accommodation centrally sited on the Holme Hall estate in Chesterfield and serves families from both the local and surrounding areas.

A maximum of 39 children may attend the nursery at any one time. With the exception of Bank Holidays and between Christmas and New Year the nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 to 18:00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 60 children aged from birth to under 8 on roll. Of these 17 children receive funding for nursery education. The provision currently supports one child with special educational needs.

The setting employs 13 staff, seven of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. Four staff are working towards qualification.

The provision is managed by Family Centres Limited which is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of Acorn Christian Ministries, and forms part of their Ministry and outreach to the community. The specific ethos of Christian teaching remains fundamental to the philosophy of the care and teaching.

### How good is the Day Care?

Promises Day Nursery provides good quality care for children.

They and their families are welcomed into a warm and caring environment where children feel secure and settled. Children are grouped appropriately with staff who maintain a consistent approach in their care and practice. Children with special needs are fully integrated into the setting. The management of the children and their behaviour is good. Children respond well to the guidance and praise from the staff and are clear of expectation.

Staff establish close relationships with the children and enjoy their company.

Younger children experience individual routines of playing and sleeping in safe and comfortable surroundings. Staff are involved in their play extending developmental skills and understanding, although there is a lack of positive images of race and disability. Pre-school children are secure in their daily routines and enjoy a variety of equipment and activities to extend their learning. Throughout the nursery emphasis is placed on the development of children's social skills and spiritual understanding.

Safety awareness is good and children learn about hygiene through daily routines. Whilst children are encouraged to eat a healthy diet, the management of mealtimes requires review.

The nursery establishes very good informal relationships with parents and carers who are provided with daily information about the children. Parents are very supportive of the provision and happy with the care and education provided. Families receive little information in writing informing them of the responsibilities and regulations of providing day care and education for children.

The setting is managed efficiently and effectively, with high levels of care and concern. All statutory recording is in place and maintained in a confidential manner. The Child Protection policy statement requires reviewing to be in accordance with the National Standard.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- The promotion of children's social development and spiritual awareness.
- Staff manage children's behaviour well. They create a positive atmosphere which encourages confidence and self-esteem. Children respond well to the expectations of the staff. They are secure and happy.
- Opportunities for all children to integrate and learn to care for each other, and the support given to older children for the smooth introduction to full time education.
- The establishment of comfortable and trusting relationships with the children and their carers and the staff's ability to assess and respond to individual need.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the safety and security of the children and their families by ensuring the Child Protection policy is in accordance with the requirements of the National Standard
- the management of meal times for older children
- children's awareness and understanding of race and disability.

**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.)**

Since April 1st 2004 Ofsted has not received any complaints about this provider.

**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
8	Review the management of meal times.
9	Ensure all children have routine access to positive images of race and disability.
13	Review the Child Protection statement so that it is in accordance with the revised standard.

## INSPECTION OF THE NURSERY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR FUNDED THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS.

### How effective is the nursery education?

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals, with very good progress in communication, language and literacy.

The quality of the teaching is generally good. The lead staff have a sound understanding of the early learning goals and are skilled in questioning children to extend learning and thinking. However, planning does not always evidence how children are achieving nor how they are being moved on in their learning. The teaching and development of children's language and vocabulary is very good. Staff use appropriate methods to help children learn, teaching in small groups or on an individual basis. Children's social, moral and spiritual awareness is well fostered and their behaviour is very good.

Space, time and resources are used effectively although the learning objectives of some activities are not fully understood by all staff.

The leadership and management of the provision is very good. Confident leadership ensures good early years practice is shared and areas for future development are identified. Training for staff is valued and encouraged.

The partnership with parents and carers is generally good. Staff and families share information about the children on a daily basis and receive daily care reports. The monthly newsletter contains details of the current topic and what children are to learn from this. Parents do not as yet however receive any written information on the curriculum.

### What is being done well?

- The development of children's language, vocabulary and imaginative thinking.
- The fostering of children's spiritual, moral and social development.
- The commitment of management to continual improvement in practice.
- The establishment of close, informal relationships with parents and carers and the general support offered to families.

### What needs to be improved?

- the formal partnership with parents and carers, so that they receive full written information on the curriculum and the early learning goals
- planning, so that it indicates how children are learning, is evaluative and used to move children on in their learning

- teaching practice, so that learning objectives are understood.

**What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children enter happily, greet staff and inspect play. Behaviour is very good. Children are encouraged to care for each other, to share and be respectful of adults and peers. They contribute to group times, sit and listen attentively and respond well to instruction. They are given some opportunities to develop independence both in thought and in practical ways but opportunities are lost to challenge more able children such as at meal times. Their moral and spiritual awareness is fostered well.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident communicators with developed negotiating skills. Language and vocabulary is extended well by staff and used to enhance children's story telling. Children sit and listen attentively and sing favourite rhymes. They use books individually and in groups and are aware of the use of print. They are developing early reading skills through the varied uses of name cards. Opportunities are offered for writing and mark making using a variety of equipment and materials.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are becoming confident with number. They count and use number both in focussed and spontaneous play. They are able to understand simple calculation but there are few opportunities for the more able children to develop problem solving skills. Staff use language of size, shape and position expertly extending children's understanding, and varied opportunities are created for them to explore pattern.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are developing a good sense of time and place through local outings into the community and reflections about their families. Topics enable them to understand the world around them. They investigate growth, change and the natural world. There are routine opportunities to investigate technical and communication equipment, but few enabling them to freely develop their design and construction skills. Resources and topics reflect other cultures and nations.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Planning does not evidence how children are wholly developing their physical skills such as moving to movement. They move confidently and safely, with control around each other whilst in the nursery and demonstrate skill with wheeled toys and bats and balls. Balancing equipment enables them to develop body control. They are skilful in handling small tools and cutlery. They are learning about the importance of healthy eating and exercise.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children have a good sense of colour. They create in small groups using various media. They enjoy singing, investigating unusual instruments and using instruments in groups, but planning does not inform whether music is routinely available in a variety of forms for leisure listening as well as for focussed activity. They explore pasta, jelly, compost and use paint in numerous ways. They construct with a variety of materials. They enjoy numerous opportunities to develop imaginative thinking.

**Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.**



## **OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION**

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. The next inspection will take place in three to four years time.

## **WHAT THE SETTING NEEDS TO DO NEXT: THE KEY ISSUES**

- Build on the partnership with parents and carers by providing them with written information on the curriculum
- Ensure planning informs how children are learning, is evaluative and used to move children on in their learning
- Ensure all staff are secure in their teaching practice so that learning objectives are understood

*The provider must draw up an action plan within 40 working days of receipt of this report showing how the key issues detailed above will be addressed. The action plan must be made available to all parents and to the Local Authority if required. An evaluation of the action taken will form part of the next inspection of funded nursery education.*

## **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.*