



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 107085

DfES Number: 580140

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	02/07/2004
Inspector Name	Janice Clark

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	The Lantern Playschool
Setting Address	Redland Parish Church Hall Redland Green Road Bristol BS6 7HE

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of The Lantern Playschool
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Lantern Playschool
Address	Redland Parish Church Hall Redland Green Road Bristol BS6 7HE

## 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

Lantern Playschool was registered in 1989. It is located in the Redland Parish Church Hall and operates within the Christian faith for children in the local community. Children have access to a large hall and a large room. There is an outside area for children to play. The group opens Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 09.15 to 12.15 during term time.

The playschool offers care for children between three and five years. Currently 34 children attend throughout the week on a variety of sessions. There are 32 children receiving funding for nursery education; 20 are three year olds and the rest are four year olds. There are four children attending who have English as a second language and the nursery is currently supporting children with special educational needs.

There are four members of staff currently working with the children including the person in charge who is a qualified teacher. Two members of staff hold a level three qualification in early years. They receive support from the Early Years Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

The Lantern Playschool provides good care for children. Staff provide a warm and welcoming environment for children and their parents. The play room is set out with toys and resources for children on arrival with displays of their work and colourful posters. The premises are clean and well maintained. There is sufficient space for children to play freely both inside and out without restriction. The group has a wide range of toys and equipment suitable for all ages and stages of development. All records are stored securely and confidentially.

Safety is a high priority in the group. Staff have a good awareness of potential hazards and are vigilant about children's safety at all times. Staff are active in promoting good hygiene. Appropriate records are kept for the administration of medication but there is scope for further improvement in this area. Drinks are available to children at all times and snacks are healthy and nutritious. Staff have a

good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues including the signs of abuse and neglect.

Staff offer children a wide range of stimulating and challenging activities that help them to progress in all areas of learning. The group is committed to providing equal opportunities for children and their families. All children are respected for their individuality and their potential is recognised, valued and nurtured. Staff have a positive attitude to working with children with special educational needs and they work well to ensure that the needs of the children and their families are being met. Good behaviour is encouraged and praised. Older children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour and the behaviour in the group is very good.

Parents receive comprehensive information about the setting on entry into the group. They have regular opportunities both formally and informally to discuss their children's development and share their knowledge of their children's learning in the home.

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

During the last inspection the group were requested to ensure that drivers using their own vehicles had adequate insurance cover for transporting children in their cars and that appropriate records were kept of the vehicles used for transporting children. They were also requested to ensure that parents signed to confirm that medication was issued to children.

Since the last inspection, the group now ensure that all drivers have the appropriate insurance for transporting children in their vehicles and that there is a record of all vehicles used, drivers and relevant documents kept on the premises. This assists in ensuring children's safety while being transported in vehicles belonging to staff and volunteers.

The group keep appropriate records for the administration of medication. However, they still do not request a signature from parents to confirm that medication has been given. This is now a recommendation against Standard 7.

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

- A high staffing ratio with the addition of volunteers and parent helpers ensures that staff are able to spend good quality time interacting with the children.
- Toys are bright, colourful and stimulating and provide sufficient challenge. Children are confident and engrossed in their play. Toys and equipment are well maintained and easily accessible to all children.
- Staff interact well with the children, they listen and question them effectively. Many learning experiences are hands on and the outside play area is used well for exploring and investigating the children's immediate environment.
- The group has a wide range of toys and equipment that represent positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability. Parents are encouraged to

share their expertise of different cultures and traditions within the group.

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

- documents, to ensure that parents are requested to sign to confirm that medication has been administered and that records are only shared with the appropriate parents.

#### **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
7	Ensure a signature from parents is requested to confirm that medication has been administered to children and that records are shared with the appropriate parents.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

The Lantern Playschool provides high quality nursery education overall, where children enjoy learning through a range of stimulating and interesting activities. An enthusiastic and dedicated staff team ensures that children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is very good. Staff use observations of children to plan for the next stage of their development. The planning system is informative as it instructs staff as to what skills the children should learn and the resources to provide. Younger children are supported appropriately. Challenges for four year olds are realistic and fun. Although, there is scope for further improvement in the area of creative development. Children with special educational needs and their families are supported well. Staff are enthusiastic and dedicated. They interact well with the children and offer clear instructions. Behaviour in the group is very good.

Leadership and management is very good. Regular team meetings ensure that there is good communication between management and staff. An effective appraisal system identifies training needs and staff are committed to further development. The group has a positive attitude towards the inspection process and is continually evaluating and monitoring the educational provision. Morale throughout the team is high.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are welcomed into the group on a rota basis as helpers and also as an opportunity to become involved in their children's learning. They are given good instruction as to what is expected of them and information about the learning outcomes of activities that are offered. This helps parents to be more confident in promoting their children's learning in the home. Parents observe their children's learning in the home and they share this information with the staff and this helps to inform the children's assessments.

### What is being done well?

- Staff are good role models. They create an atmosphere of calm and mutual respect that promotes a good learning environment. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour. Good behaviour is encouraged through praise.
- Parents are encouraged to share their knowledge about their children's development before they enter the group and then on an ongoing basis. This enables staff to build on children's early experiences and plan the next stage of their development.
- Staff have a positive attitude for caring with children with special educational needs. They work closely with the parents and outside agencies to ensure that children's individual needs are being met and there is continuity between

the home and the group.

**What needs to be improved?**

- creative opportunities, to ensure that children are able to be inventive in their creative play.

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

The group have made very good progress since the last inspection.

The group has introduced a system for recording children's attainment and progress that links directly to the six areas of learning. They have further developed the existing planning system to include more detailed short term plans. Observations are used to inform the planning of what children should do next and how the activities should be adapted for less able and more able children. Plans are informative and activities are evaluated during informal staff meetings. This ensures that children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals. Staff now display the examples of the children's work and group project work. This assists in promoting children's self-esteem and provides a bright, colourful, welcoming environment for children and parents.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are excited and motivated to learn. They move around the group with confidence and choose from a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities. They are learning to concentrate and listen as they take part in group discussions. They have good relationships with adults and peers, work together to solve problems and support each other well. They are developing respect for each other as they discuss the events from their home lives during imaginative play situations.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are extending their vocabulary as they listen to an ongoing story and concentrate as they remember what has happened so far and think about what will happen next. They are linking sounds to letters as they sound out the letters in their names. They are learning that print carries meaning as they develop a love of books and play in an environment that is rich with print. Children are developing their writing skills as they write for a variety of purposes in their play.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are enjoying simple number operations such as adding two groups of numbers together, taking away and estimating how many are left before counting it out. They talk about more and less and use their problem solving skills in a variety of situations during registration, snack time, and play activities. Children are using mathematical language when they weigh out ingredients for biscuits. They are naming and describing a range of shapes in two and three dimensions.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are finding out about, and identifying features of living things through hands on experiences as they investigate a collection of reptiles. Children are developing a knowledge of their own cultures and beliefs through listening to and singing Christian stories and songs. They are finding out about those of others as parents share their expertise and they participate in interesting and varied themed activities that introduce them to different cultural experiences and traditions.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have access to the outside play area throughout the day providing regular opportunities to practise their large physical skills. They move confidently and safely using large apparatus and manoeuvring wheeled toys with increasing control. They are learning about healthy eating as they discuss what food they need to eat to make them grow. They are developing their small manipulative skills as they use their hands and a range of tools to sew and weave and to manipulate dough.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
<p>Children are exploring a range of tools and textures while experimenting with colour and light through a wide range of activities. They are engaged in range of imaginary experiences, introduced by the staff, representing the community they live in. Children have opportunities to use their imaginative skills to develop their own ideas in art and craft choosing from a variety of media. However, some projects are pre-defined and do not allow children to be inventive in their creative skills.</p>	

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



## **OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION**

The provision is acceptable and is of high quality. Children are making very 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**

*There are no significant weaknesses to report, but considerations should be given to improving the following:*

- There is no significant weaknesses to report but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- extend children's opportunities to become more inventive in their creative skills.

*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.*