



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 106148

DfES Number: 516878

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/04/2003
Inspector Name	Richard Jones

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Kenton Pre-school
Setting Address	The Victory Hall Kenton Exeter Devon EX6 8JA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Kenton Pre-school 1020323
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Kenton Pre-school
Address	Kenton Victory Hall Kenton Exeter Devon EX6 8JA

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public 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

Kenton Pre-School is a committee run pre-school which operates from two settings, the core sessions are at the Victory Hall situated in the village, Monday-Thursday 9.30-12.00 with an extended session on Thursdays.

On a Tuesday they operate an extended session for 10 weeks prior to a child starting the local school, this coincides with the two school intakes a year. On these days the children stay and have a packed lunch at the Victory Hall and walk to school with a 1:2 staff ratio, the session at the school runs from 1- 3 pm.

This an introduction to the school setting where children have contact with the key stage 1 children and their teacher, and two members of pre-school staff are present.

This session accommodates a maximum of 10 children aged 4 to under 5 years.

The Victory Hall is registered for 24 children aged 3 to under 5 years and at present there are 15 children on roll. Five of these are four-years-old and ten are three-years-old. All are in receipt of funding. Children attend from the village and surrounding area. There are currently no children who have special educational needs or English as an additional language. A staff of four support the provision, three have appropriate childcare qualifications or training and one is working towards qualification. The group is also regularly supported on the Tuesday session by a volunteer who is a qualified teacher. The group have the use of a large hall and a smaller room. There is secure, equipped, outdoor play space.

The group is an accredited member of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and receives the support of the Devon Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership by regularly attending Early Years Cluster meetings.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Kenton pre-school offers high quality nursery education where children enjoy learning through a wide range of stimulating activities. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals in all the areas of learning. The key strengths in personal social and emotional development are due to the staff's skill in behaviour management and the way in which children are encouraged to think about others. Appreciation of music is a feature of the setting and children enjoy listening to music, discussing it and singing along. The purposeful use of the computer enables children's knowledge and understanding of the world to be effectively developed. Communication, language and literacy is very well presented with more opportunities for note taking in role play being a point for consideration. Teaching is very good. Sessions have good pace and balance and transition to school is well supported. Effective use is made of regular assessments to plan for children's progression. Plans are reviewed by staff regularly to evaluate how well the activities have gone. Involving children in the planning process is an area that the staff would like to explore and develop. The setting has no children at present with special educational needs but there is an effective system in place to provide good support. The group is strongly committed to working closely with parents and local supporting agencies to ensure children's needs are met. Leadership and management of the setting is very good with quality being rigorously monitored. The group has successfully completed an accreditation process and is continually reviewing this and ensuring that their practice is consistently good. The staff are a strong team, sensitive to the children and committed to consistent improvement and ongoing training. The partnership with parents is excellent. There are many opportunities for them to be involved with their children's learning and contribute to the assessment system.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is excellent. They are confident, interested in their activities and show great sensitivity to others. Behaviour is exemplary.
- Creative development is a strength with music being very effectively used to stimulate children's thinking.
- Knowledge and understanding of the world is extremely well presented with very effective use being made of technology to support children's learning and there are many exciting opportunities to observe growth and change.
- Partnership with parents is excellent. They are given many opportunities to be involved with their children's learning and are provided with helpful information.
- Strong leadership supports continual improvement through a commitment to reviewing practice and staff development.

What needs to be improved?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● children's opportunities to make marks and note-take in role play.● children's involvement in the planning process.

What has improved since the last inspection?
<p>The setting has made very good progress since the last inspection and all issues raised have been very thoroughly addressed.</p> <p>The group have worked hard to ensure that parents and carers are well informed about their children's progress and there are many opportunities for them to contribute to children's learning. There is a very good system of assessment and individual plans ensure that all children are well supported and extended in their learning. The plans clearly show that all areas of learning are covered well. Staff have a thorough awareness of the activity plans and these are also made available to parents. Aims for activities are effectively communicated to all adults in the setting. The group now has a co-ordinator for special educational needs and she has a very good understanding of this area of provision. Staff are conscientious in their commitment to supportive training.</p>

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in personal, social and emotional development. The staff enable children to understand the reasons for rules and behaviour is extremely good. The children are confident and have great personal independence. They listen patiently to each others news and speak up with great confidence. Stories, music and additional means of communication (e.g. signing) are very effectively used to help children develop a good understanding of other cultures and differing needs.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in communication, language and literacy is very good. Consistent emphasis is given to the sounds that letters make and the sounds within words. Children take great delight in books, discussing the content with great interest. Older children are appropriately stretched and encouraged to attempt to write their names. Providing more frequent opportunities for note taking, for example in role play, is a recommendation for future improvement.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in mathematical development is very good. Various activities are provided each session which encourage children to calculate, add and subtract. Very good use is made of positional language and children can order and sort plastic teddies in increasing quantities. The links between numerals, quantities and counting is effectively made in , for example, birthday celebrations. Number songs enable children to carefully count up or down as the seeds in the song grow or are eaten.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world. Excellent opportunities are taken to extend and develop the children's interest in the world about them as they go on walks and they observe closely the changes that take place, for example to caterpillars on the interest table and to the seeds they have planted. Excellent use is made of a computer to extend children's learning. They are given appropriate support and their use of the equipment is purposeful.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's progress in physical development is very good. Very effective use is made of appropriately challenging climbing and balancing apparatus to develop and extend the children's larger muscles. The move around the setting confidently and with great control and enjoy parachute games. Very good support is given to children using play dough and they pummel satisfyingly large mounds of dough, rolling and cutting it using implements, thereby effectively developing their small muscles.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress in the area of creative development. The use of music is a particular strength of the setting. Children are encouraged to listen to the sounds within music and describe what they hear. They do this most enthusiastically. There are regular opportunities for them to appreciate and explore music through dance and singing. Paint and foam are particularly popular opportunities for children to explore texture and colour using a variety of techniques.

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:

- Increase children's opportunities to make marks and note-take in role play.
- Develop ways that children can be involved in the planning process.

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.