



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY280862

DfES Number:

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 25/01/2005
Inspector Name Debra Davey

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Spitalfields Children's Centre
Setting Address 21 Lamb Street
London
E1 6EA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Bright Horizons Family Solutions Ltd 2328679

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Bright Horizons Family Solutions Ltd
Address 2 Crown Court
Crown Way
Rushden
Northamptonshire
NN10 6BS

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

The Spitalfields Children's Centre opened in 1998. It operates from a purpose built nursery close to Spitalfields market. It serves families who live or work in the local area.

There are currently 22 children from 3 months - 5 years on role. This includes 3 funded 3 year old children. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting has experience of supporting children with special educational needs. There are 2 children currently attending who speaks English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week. Opening hours are 07:30-18:30.

All eleven full time staff work directly with the children. There is also a centre manager. They have recognised early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Spitalfields Children's Centre provides good quality nursery education. Children make very good progress in communication, language and literacy, mathematics, physical, creative development and knowledge and understanding of the world.

The quality of teaching is generally good and has very good aspects. The recent introduction of a new curriculum has provided staff with an excellent framework of assessment and planning which is currently developing well to provide a broad and stimulating range of activities. Staff form good relationships with children and skilfully engage them in fruitful conversations to make them think and help them learn. A variety of strategies are used to promote children's independence and help them to behave well, such as lots of praise and encouragement.

Leadership and management of the centre is very good. The new nursery manager is enthusiastic and the staff team work together to provide child led environment where children's learning is fostered well. The staff team have regular meetings to discuss and assess activities and individual children's learning. Staff are encouraged to attend training to update their practice.

The partnership with parent's and carers is very good. Parent's are provided with good quality information initially and an effective key worker system ensures that they are well informed about their child's progress. There is a parent representative and steering committee to provide a forum for the discussion of ideas.

What is being done well?

- The centre is well resourced with an excellent range of quality equipment, well organised to support play and learning.
- There is a good system of assessment and planning which is used well to ensure that all available opportunities are used to extend children's learning.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. Children are confident, motivated and interested to learn. They behave well.
- Children enjoy a wide variety of activities that allow them to explore nature and living things; to look at patterns of growth and change and learn about the wider world.
- Children are provided with good opportunities to help them to independently select, design and build using a range of tools and materials.

What needs to be improved?

- No significant weaknesses were identified at this inspection and the staff are committed to continuing to provide a good range of opportunities for children

to support their learning in all areas.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the first inspection for funded nursery education.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are encouraged to choose activities, they become highly involved in their play and are interested to learn. Children respond well to staff praise and support and their behaviour is good. They are developing their personal independence through selecting resources; working independently; and helping themselves to drinks. The children are very happy and confident, they are learning to share and take turns.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children speak and listen confidently and enjoy fruitful conversations with adults about other countries, such as Australia, and creatures, such as the African Land Snails. They read books for pleasure, enjoy stories and listen well. Children have good opportunities to develop writing skills, a well resourced writing and office area is freely accessible to children.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children count and recognise numbers in familiar context. Children are developing practical problem solving methods, for example, when participating in puzzles and construction play. Children have lots of opportunities to weigh, sort, position and size objects. They are beginning to add and subtract during counting rhymes such as 5 little ducks. Children have opportunities to recognise and make patterns during various activities.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children use tools and techniques competently and appropriately to build and construct. They show an interest in lives of other people and those familiar to them. Children differentiate between past and present. They have opportunities to examine living things such as mini-beasts and to find out how things work using radios, clocks and telephones.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children can run, jump, crawl and balance, moving confidently and safely. They are using a variety of tools with increasing control for example, hammer and screwdrivers at the woodwork bench. They enjoy weekly dance classes to help them explore movement and special projects to help them learn about parts of the body, senses and good health.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children have access to free art and natural materials for modelling. They make their own paint and play dough. Children respond enthusiastically to what they see, hear, smell and touch, for example, drums, music and dressing up costumes. Children use their imagination well, when participating in role play in the house; shop; restaurant; and office.

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:

- Point for consideration; review the organisation of some group activities, such as French classes to ensure that they sustain children's interest.

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.