



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 301760

DfES Number: 523515

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	25/03/2004
Inspector Name	Patricia Lowe

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Goosehill Private Nursery
Setting Address	9 Goose Hill Morpeth Northumberland NE61 1TL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs. Amanda Willis
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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

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Goosehill Nursery provides a welcoming atmosphere where children settle quickly and make very good progress towards the early learning goals across all six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff are enthusiastic, work well together, and provide an interesting and challenging curriculum that enables children to successfully learn. Their very good understanding of the early learning goals is used to provide excellent child and adult-initiated activities. The nursery accommodation and use of local amenities provide a stimulating environment both inside and outside. Very good resources are effectively used to develop children's abilities and learning. Ongoing and detailed assessment ensures that each child's needs, interests and abilities are identified and that appropriate activities are planned and provided.

Staff have high expectations of all children's behaviour and this has a positive impact on behaviour and relationships within the nursery. Interaction with children is very good; successfully fostering independence in play and learning. Children with special needs attend the nursery and appropriate procedures are in place to provide effective care and support.

The leadership and management of the nursery is very good. Staff are very aware of their roles and responsibilities and work well as a team, so that the day to day running of the nursery works very well. The manager has a strong commitment to monitoring, developing and improving practices. Staff are encouraged and supported to undertake ongoing training and to contribute to planning, staff meetings and reviews.

Partnership with parents is very good. They are provided with detailed, verbal and written information that tells them about the nursery's organisation and activities and keeps them well informed of their child's achievements and progress. They are actively encouraged to become involved and to share what they know about their child.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. They are confident, interested and involved in activities, and becoming very independent in their play and learning. Their social skills are well developed, their general behaviour is very good and their relationships with staff and each other are very positive.
- Staff's positive interaction with children and their solid knowledge of the early learning goals leads to stimulating, well planned activities that interest children and progresses their learning.

- Children's use of language for thinking and communication is very good. Staff encourage and take an interest in what children say, and children effectively use language to extend and enhance their play and learning and to confidently express their feelings and ideas.
- Strong leadership ensures the effective monitoring and assessment of teaching and learning, so that staff development is well supported, improvements are identified and high standards maintained.

What needs to be improved?

- There are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to the following:
- opportunities for child-initiated mark-making for a variety of purposes.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are confident when expressing their needs and ideas and have a high level of independence which extends and enhances their learning in all areas. Their behaviour and relationships with staff and each other are very positive. During play and learning they are interested and involved, work well in groups and independently.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's use of language for communication and thinking is well developed through songs, stories, questioning, and conversation. They use it effectively to extend and enhance their play and learning. Children confidently engage in developing their writing skills and can recognise familiar words in books and on labelling within the setting.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Most children confidently count beyond ten and recognise some numerals. Good small group activities extend children's understanding of shape and pattern, addition and subtraction, which are often consolidated during other activities, for example, counting songs, jigsaws, construction. All children use positional language in their play, for example, enacting stories with props, outdoor play, construction and train tracks.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children learn about the natural world and features of their environment during walks and visits to local amenities, for example, the nearby riverside. They enjoy exploring, investigating and using a wide range of tools and equipment. Most children competently use the computer, headphones and tape decks and digital camera. Children confidently and spontaneously talk about people and events in their own lives and are learning about the cultures and beliefs of other people.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children move within all areas confidently and safely, and skilfully manoeuvre and control their bodies and resources during outside play. Children are adept at manipulating small items, for example, cutting and sticking tools. They have opportunities to develop their climbing and balancing skills and enjoy taking part in 'Jabbadao' music and movement sessions. Most children are independent when attending to their physical needs for example, toilet, washing hands, fastening clothes.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are confident and able to explore and express their ideas and feelings through a wide range of activities, such as dressing up and role play, painting, two and three dimensional model making, music and movement and musical instruments. Children confidently recognise and use colour in all activities and experience using different textures and materials such as wet sand, collage and playdough.	
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 only-
- Increase child-initiated opportunities to make marks for a purpose within everyday activities.

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.