



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253980

DfES Number: 500468

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	16/03/2004
Inspector Name	Mary Gilbert

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Broome & Ditchingham Playgroup
Setting Address	Ditchingham Village Hall Loddon Road, Ditchingham Bungay Suffolk NR35 2RA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Broome & Ditchingham Playgroup 1037364
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Broome & Ditchingham Playgroup
Address	Ditchingham Village Hall Loddon Road, Ditchingham Bungay Suffolk NR35 2RA

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

Broome and Ditchingham Playgroup opened in 1974. They moved to the present premises at Ditchingham Village Hall in 1981. It operates from the large hall and also the committee room in the building. There is a large enclosed play area at the rear of the premises including a recently planted nature garden. The playgroup serves the local area.

There are currently 22 children on roll. This includes 15 funded three year olds and 3 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs.

The group operates for five sessions a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9.30 to 12.00 Tuesday to Fridays and from 1.00 to 3.30 on Wednesday afternoons.

Five staff work with the children, together with volunteers on a regular basis. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from a worker, teacher and area SENCO from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Broome and Ditchingham Playgroup provide good quality care for children.

The children are well supported by well qualified staff, who in turn are well supported by a committee. The premises are well organised, providing a warm and welcoming environment for the children. There are a good range of resources to support all areas of learning.

Staff are aware of safety issues and provide good routines to ensure that the premises are kept safe. Children are encouraged to develop independence by putting on their own coats, changing their shoes and going to the toilet. The staff remind the children to wash their hands after going to the toilet and before they eat.

Staff remind children of the reason why they need to develop good hygiene practises. Children's needs are acknowledged and care taken to provide for specific special needs. Good behaviour is encouraged and staff work together to ensure that children are aware of the boundaries expected by the setting.

Children's learning is monitored and recorded. Plans are evaluated in light of children's achievements. Learning is planned for all areas of development and there are good resources to support this. The effective use of the outdoor environment is integral to planning the curriculum and children are encouraged to support caring for this outdoor area by planting, pruning and maintaining it's cleanliness.

The partnership with parents is good. Parents are encouraged to share children's learning and participate in fundraising and social events. They are confident in the care provided for the children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

All documentation required to be put in place at the last inspection has been completed..

What is being done well?

- The use of the premises is well managed. Staff transform the community hall to a centre of learning. The outside area has been well planned and children are offered stimulating activities.
- Children are encouraged to be independent and develop good hygiene routines. Staff ensure children are aware of reasons.
- Resources are provided to meet all areas of development. Plans to use these well are in place. Staff observe and record children's development.
- Staff work well as a team to plan and work with the children.

What needs to be improved?

- an appraisal system for the supervisor;
- develop resources to promote images of disabilities.

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
9	Extend resources to promote an awareness of disabilities.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The provision of nursery education at Broome and Ditchingham Playgroup is acceptable and of high quality. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning.

The teaching of the children is very good. Staff have a clear understanding of the early learning goals and the stepping stones to reach them. Staff work together to provide effective learning experiences. Plans are clear, evaluated regularly and adjusted to meet their needs. Their learning is observed and recorded against the stepping stones. However the records kept are extremely detailed and time consuming to complete. Challenges set to extend the older more able children are appropriate.

The leadership and management of the setting is very good. The supervisor has vision and is able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the setting. She is committed to ensure that the care and education provided is of a high standard for all children. She is prepared to make adjustments where necessary and encourage and support the staff in all aspects of their work.

The partnership with parents is generally good. The information supplied regarding the education provided enables them to know what the children are learning, and to support them in a variety of ways. However there needs to be regular opportunities planned for records of achievements to be shared with parents.

What is being done well?

- The development of the outdoor area has provided valuable opportunities for the curriculum to be extended in all areas of learning.
- The excellent teaching provided ensures that the thinking skills of children are skilfully extended.
- The carefully planned and evaluated curriculum ensures that children are given stimulating opportunities in all areas of learning
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is well developed by the provision of effective planned and unplanned opportunities.

What needs to be improved?

- Review development records to ensure they are manageable within the keyworker system and provide planned opportunities to share them with parents on a regular basis.
- Review resources to ensure there are sufficient to promote information and communication technology effectively.

What has improved since the last inspection?
<p>At the last inspection there were no significant weaknesses reported, but three areas for consideration. The first one was to implement the newly introduced appraisal system. This is in place, and staff training needs identified. There is need for the manager to be appraised.</p> <p>The second point for consideration was to create more regular opportunities for children to solve practical problems. This is now in place and during the inspection a number of these were observed.</p> <p>The third point for consideration was to provide more access to musical instruments. This was not observed during the inspection although the instruments were on a shelf which children could access independently. There are planned opportunities for their use outlined in the very detailed planning.</p>

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's progress in personal, social and emotional development is very good. Children are keen to learn and develop good relationships with staff and children. They respond well to different stimulus and learning to take turns. Children are encouraged to be independent and make choices. Staff monitor behaviour and work together to give children strategies to deal with specific problems.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's progress in communication language and literacy is very good. Staff ask questions to develop children's thinking skills. They provide experiences for children to speak in large and small groups. Children are happy to share their experiences. Opportunities are planned for children to link sounds and letters, and choosing and sharing books. Children are encouraged to write their own names, and specific skills are given to older and more able children to correctly form letters.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's progress in maths is very good. Numbers are used in large group activities to promote children's understanding of counting and mathematical language. Problem solving is part of every day activities and staff encourage children's language by good questioning. More formal opportunities are planned for children to develop their mathematical skills.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's progress in knowledge and understanding of the world is very good. Staff plan well to develop children's senses. They use the outdoor environment well to promote learning. They encourage children to help care for this environment. Children are keen to explore planned experiences and organise their own activities to promote learning. Specific plans to ensure all areas of learning in this area is planned. There is a lack of resources to support information and communication technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's progress in physical development is very good. Activities planned provide for all areas of physical development. Children move confidently using a range of large and small equipment. They use the outside play sessions imaginatively and staff interact well to extend these experiences. Staff encourage children to understand the importance of staying healthy and encourage them to think of ways they can help themselves to remain healthy. Children use a range of tools and equipment safely

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children's progress in creative development is very good. A wide range of resources are provided and children are given choices. There are good planned opportunities for children to use their imagination in a variety of situations. Children are encouraged to communicate their own ideas. Staff support them well. Music is used well to provide stimulation for the children. They listen and respond well, and enjoy singing a variety of songs from memory.	
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:

- Review development records to ensure they are manageable within the keyworker system and ensure there are planned opportunities to share them with parents on a regular basis.
- Review resources to ensure there are sufficient to promote information and communication technology effectively.

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.