



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 316000

DfES Number: 534267

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	18/01/2005
Inspector Name	Susan, Helen Spencer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Heaton House
Setting Address	553 Chorley Old Road Bolton Lancashire BL1 6AE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Joyce Lorraine Baxter
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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

Heaton House Nursery was registered in January 2000 and is situated near to Bolton Town Centre. It is easily accessible by bus and has car parking on site.

It is registered to provide full day care for 30 children from birth to under five years between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm Monday to Friday.

The large two storey property has children's bathroom on both floors within easy access to all playrooms. The ground floor is used to provide care for children birth to three years with the first floor used to provide care for pre school children.

A secure outdoor play area is provided to the rear of the premises.

All staff are qualified to a minimum of level II NVQ in Child Care and Education with many staff qualified to level III and some to an even higher level. There are currently fifty-one children on role including twelve funded three-year-olds and six funded four-year-olds.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Heaton House nursery provides high-quality nursery education. The children are making very good progress in all six areas of learning. Relationships at the nursery are good. The children are treated with respect and are becoming quite confident.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a secure understanding of the early learning goals and how to plan activities to promote children's learning. They plan a broad range of activities around topics. They use good methods to teach children allowing for plenty of free choice, but also carefully monitor children's participation to ensure that each child benefits from a broad and balanced programme. Staff carry out detailed and rigorous assessment of children's progress based on observations. They also identify next targets for children's learning.

The nursery works very well in partnership with parents and carers. They are given good information about the foundation stage. They are invited into the nursery twice each year to look at the children's records and to discuss with keyworkers the progress that their children are making. Parents and carers are given good opportunities to become involved in their children's learning through the shared reading scheme.

The nursery is well led and managed. An operational plan is well written, up to date and used effectively as a tool for the everyday running of the nursery. Heaton House has achieved the Investors in People Award. A training development plan effectively identifies the training needs of staff. Regular staff appraisals take place and consequently staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities. Staff meet regularly for inhouse training and to discuss any operational matters. Staff informally assess areas in the educational programme for development, but they do not draw up a formal development plan for the educational provision.

What is being done well?

- Staff promote children's personal independence very well. They encourage children to do things for themselves whilst sensitively offering support only if essential.
- The staff treat children with respect, making them feel valued. Relationships between staff and children are good.
- The children's enjoyment of books and love of reading is fostered very effectively. The children are becoming confident in communicating with staff and each other. They also enjoy making up their own stories, for example, as part of 'small world' play.
- Some aspects of knowledge and understanding of the world are particularly worth mentioning, for example, the use of technology to support children's learning in other areas. The children are also taken on several trips out of the

nursery into the local area.

What needs to be improved?

- the development planning for the educational provision.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are treated with respect. They take pride in their work, are confident and keen to show what they can do. They are developing very good levels of independence. They fasten their own coats. Staff deliberately encourage children to achieve things for themselves. The children not only tidy away, but also set up for next time. They are forming friendships and are learning to take turns, for instance when playing lotto. They are well behaved. They treat cultural diversity with respect.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children listen enthralled to stories that are well read. The children are developing good levels of confidence in speaking and listening. A good level of interaction takes place throughout the day with children discussing the things they are doing and making up their own stories. The children have good opportunities to make marks on paper. Older children are learning to form letters and some label their own work.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children match objects when playing matching pairs and lotto. They are learning to recognise shapes when making penguins. They are becoming confident at counting, for example, the number of animals in the sand trough. They are learning to make comparisons, such as, Which has more? and Which has least? They are also learning to carry out number operations, such as, Take one away and How many altogether?

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children use technology well to support their learning, for example, the children sing along to a CD and choose their own backing instruments on the computer. They use a camera to take photographs. The children regularly go on trips into the local area. They have very good opportunities to explore media, such as melting snow and ice and adding food colouring. The children are learning about passing time, discussing things they have done. They learn about a good range of celebrations.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

The children handle a wide variety of tools with a good level of control, such as shovels, spoons and gluesticks. They are beginning to understand the space they need when acting out songs. They are developing good control in body movements, for example, when doing star jumps. They use a good range of small equipment in the outdoor area when weather permits. They are learning to manoeuvre wheeled toys taking care not to bump into each other. The children have weekly swimming lessons.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
The children use their imagination very well when telling stories, for example, when playing with the small world play. The children's observational drawings are very good. They have painted penguins. They have good opportunities to freely experiment with colours and textures. They mix paints and experiment with food colours and ice. The children know a good repertoire of songs and join in enthusiastically. They carry out some good three dimensional work using reclaimable materials.	
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 are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- draw up a development plan with regards to the educational provision to ensure that standards are maintained.

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.