



Office for Standards  
in Education

## NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 122641

DfES Number: 582507

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 17/03/2004  
Inspector Name Joanne Lindsey Caswell

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Reigate Parish Play Group  
Setting Address 91 Blackborough Road  
Reigate  
Surrey  
RH2 7DB

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Trustees

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Trustees  
Address 91 Blackborough Road  
Reigate  
Surrey  
RH2 7DB

## 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

Reigate Parish Playgroup opened in 1998. It operates from a purpose-designed, self-contained area within Reigate Parish Primary School. The group has sole use of a kitchen, toilets and a large, enclosed outdoor play area. The playgroup serves the local community.

There are currently 40 children, aged from two to four years, on roll. This includes 26 funded three year olds and 13 funded four year olds. There are currently no funded children present, for whom English is an additional language. The group has experience in supporting children with special educational needs.

The playgroup opens five days a week during school term time. Sessions last from 09:15 to 11:45 and 12:45 to 15:15. Children attend a variety of sessions each week.

Six part time staff work with the children. Four have early years qualifications and all staff are qualified first aiders. Additional early years training courses are available to all staff.

Reigate Parish Playgroup adopts a number of teaching methods and places great emphasis on children learning through play and by experimentation. It is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance and receives support and advice from Surrey Early Years and Childcare Service.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

The provision for nursery education at Reigate Parish Play Group is acceptable and of high quality. It enables children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals in all six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff develop warm, caring relationships with the children and interact closely with them. They understand how children learn and act as very good role models. They have an excellent understanding of the early learning goals and this is reflected in the detailed curriculum planning. Staff manage children's behaviour extremely well and promote a very positive and happy atmosphere. The staff team consists of professionally qualified and experienced staff who are all dedicated to high standards and ensuring on-going improvements. They meet children's differing needs well and utilise all the available opportunities to extend children's learning, although this is not always formally recorded in curriculum plans. Staff provide an excellent selection of practical and fun learning opportunities and utilise all the space available, both inside and outside.

The leadership and management of the play group is very good. A strong partnership exists between the committee and supervisor who are clearly aware of their differing roles and understand regulations. Staff training is recognised as a priority and all staff update their skills regularly. Good provision is available for staff to support and meet the needs of any children with special educational needs.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Staff greet parents warmly and ensure they are well informed of their children's progress and achievements. Parents receive information about the early learning goals and effective procedures are in place for parents to help support their children's learning at home, such as the sharing of the Surprise Bag.

### What is being done well?

- Staff provide a very welcoming, calm, homely and purposeful atmosphere. Children feel secure and happy and are motivated to learn and develop new skills.
- Staff are professional, dedicated and totally committed to the children in their care. They have extensive knowledge of all the children's differing needs and address these accordingly.
- Children are confident and extremely happy. They form good relationships with one another and their behaviour is exemplary.
- The homely and warm atmosphere and friendly staff help children to develop good social skills. Children are learning to choose resources, share, be independent and to take care of their personal needs successfully.

- Staff plan a wide range of interesting, stimulating and practical activities supported by an extensive range of quality resources.
- Staff allow children to develop their own play ideas and form their own friendships. The flexible approach enables children to initiate their own games and play creatively.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the formal recording of all extension activities on curriculum plans

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

The play group has made very good progress in meeting the two points for consideration raised at the last Ofsted inspection in January 2000.

Since this inspection, the play group sessions have been re-organised to provide morning sessions for older children aged three to four years with younger children attending the afternoon sessions. This has enabled staff to ensure effective teaching time is given to the older and more able children to extend their skills in the key areas of language, writing and mathematics.

The play group has also reviewed the provision of the book corner. Additional books have been purchased and a very attractive and stimulating area is provided for children to access books easily and enjoy them on an individual basis or in both small and large groups.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are happy, sociable and confident. They show care and consideration for others and are developing independence in looking after themselves. They concentrate well and listen to stories and participate in group discussion. They show curiosity and have high self-esteem. Children behave extremely well and have a clear understanding of boundaries. They form very good relationships with their peers and adults and interact extremely well with one another.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children's communication skills are good. They use language effectively to convey their needs and engage in conversation with adults and their peers. Children are developing a good understanding of sounds and letters and have regular access to mark making. Some children are able to write their names freely, forming letters correctly. Children understand that print and symbols have meaning and recognise the purpose of the directional arrow signs in the outside play area.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's mathematical skills are developing well. They have a good understanding of number and recognise numbers in a variety of contexts, such as on the wall, on telephones etc. A good range of practical activities enable children to experience concepts such as size, shape, volume and weight and children use appropriate mathematical language to compare. They enjoy regular cooking activities where they use scales and count out ingredients.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

An excellent range of practical activities enable children to explore, investigate and experiment. Children are able to handle natural and man-made materials and enjoy regular cooking activities. Children are introduced to a wide range of cultures and customs and are developing a wider understanding of the lives of other children and people within the community. Good provision is made for children to use the computer.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's physical skills are well-developed. They handle a range of small and large apparatus with increasing control and show good co-ordination. Good provision is made for children to move freely using wheeled toys, climbing frame, balancing equipment and bats and balls. Children are developing a good understanding of the importance of healthy eating and are beginning to understand basic bodily awareness, such as the importance of regular hand washing.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's creative skills are progressing well. They have access to a wide range of media and are able to express themselves freely, using their senses. They enjoy musical activities and provision is made for children to play imaginatively in a well-resourced role play area. A good range of dressing up clothes and supporting resources enable children to use their creativity and initiate their own play.

**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:
- ensure all extension activities for older/more able children are clearly recorded on curriculum plans.

*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.*