



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 100605

DfES Number: 580857

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/03/2005
Inspector Name Moreen Johnson

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Woodentots Montessori School
Setting Address 6 Rochester Road
London
NW1 9JH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Woodentots Montessori Limited 04309360

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Woodentots Montessori Limited
Address 1148 High Road
MountView Court
Wheystone
London
N20 0RA

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

Woodentots Montessori nursery has been registered since 1989. They offer part-time and full day care for 12 children aged from 2 to 5 years of age. The nursery is in the basement of a house with an open plan group room, kitchen, separate adult and children's toilets and garden.

Opening times are 09:00 to 15:00 with sessions from 09:00 to 12:00 and 12:00 to 15:00 during term-time.

The group use Montessori methods of teaching, there are three permanent staff members, who hold Montessori Diplomas, two of the three staff have an NVQ level 3 certificate, the other staff member is currently undertaking NVQ3. The provision offers placements to Montessori students.

There are currently 12 children on roll some of these are funded 3 and 4 year olds. The setting supports children with special educational needs and children whose first language is not English.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The provision of education at Woodentots Montessori School is of high quality. Children make very good progress toward the early learning goals in all six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff use the space and resources effectively by planning a wide range of stimulating activities both indoors and outdoors. Staff have a sound knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals and make good links to the Montessori method. There are good systems in place for carrying out observations and assessments on children, which are used well to inform planning. Staff provide children with good opportunities to develop an understanding of the world, but they do not have regular access to everyday technology. Staff promote children's independence well and have established a good balance between adult and child initiated play. Staff promote children's writing skills well, they have access to a good selection of writing materials. Overall children are encouraged to develop good reading skills but they do not have sufficient opportunities to use books independently. Staff have excellent relationships with children, they actively listen to them, support them well encourage them to share their ideas and experiences.

The leadership and management is very good. The owner and manager works closely together to monitor the quality of the education. There is a strong committed to staff development and training. The owner has a good aware of the settings strength and weakness and is willing to addressing the weakness.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. The group provide parents with good written information about the setting, the foundation stage and activities. There are good formal and informal systems in place for staff to share information with parents about their children's attainment and progress.

What is being done well?

- Leadership and management, which ensure that there are effective systems in place to evaluate the quality of care provided to children.
- Staff have a comprehensive understanding of the stepping stones and the early learning goals and make good links to the Montessori method.
- Staff provide children with a stimulating learning environment to enable them to make good progress through the stepping stones towards the early learning goals.
- Staff promote children confidence and independence well
- Staff have good relationships with parents and there a good systems in place

to share information with parents about children's attainment and progress.

What needs to be improved?

- opportunities for children to use books independently
- opportunities for children to use information communication technology

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are interested and engage in playing with a wide range of activities, which are well organised and easily accessible. Children are well settled into the group, they separate confidently from their parents and readily join in activities. Children are encouraged to be independent, they choose activities freely, dress themselves and help to set the snack table. Children are developing an understanding of right and wrong, but are not always supported to resolve disputes.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children talk confidently to each other and adults in large and small groups. They are encouraged to link letters to words by identifying the letters in their names and they confidently match letters to pictures of items. They are developing good writing skills through a range of practical activities. Overall children's reading skills are promoted well, however children do not always choose books independently.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children can count confidently up to 10 and solve number problems by counting and matching items to numbers. They are encouraged to develop an understanding of addition and subtraction by identifying how many more items are required, they explore which items are big, bigger and biggest. They are developing an understanding of measurement by weighing out cooking ingredients and by comparing their size on a heights chart.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children enjoy talking about their experiences, by sharing information. They have good opportunities to build by using a wide range of materials. Children are developing a good understanding of the natural world by planting and digging in the garden. They have excellent opportunities to develop an understanding of a wide range of cultures. Children do not always have opportunity to use every day technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children enjoy playing energetically during outdoor play, they run, jump, climb up and down the stairs safely. Children control their movements well and take the needs of others into account, when lining up they wait their turn patiently. Children understand good hygiene practice washing their hands before and after using the toilet and many children get a tissue independently to wipe their nose. Children use a variety of small and large equipment well to develop their whole body movement.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children have good opportunities to be creative. They are encouraged to identify a variety of colours and shapes. They explore texture by using dough, paint and touch boards. They enjoy the music and movement session, they participate in singing a wide range of familiar songs and rhymes and using musical instruments. They engage in role-play by playing imaginary games in the garden and some children talked about pirates and finding treasure.

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:
- improve opportunities for children to use information communication technology and books independently

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.