



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 303843

DfES Number: 535277

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/11/2003
Inspector Name Ruth Levery

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Todmorden Community Playgroup
Setting Address Todmorden C of E School
Burnley Road
Todmorden
West Yorkshire
OL14 7BS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Todmorden Community Playgroup
Committee

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Todmorden Community Playgroup Committee
Address Todmorden C of E Playgroup
Burnley Road
Todmorden
Lancashire
OL14 7BS

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

Todmorden community playgroup has been operating from the current premises for one year. They use a portable unit on the school premises and have shared use with the out of school club. There are two play rooms, children's toilets, storage space and outside play. The playgroup works closely with the school and after school club to offer wrap around care to the children and a continuation of child care. The playgroup serves the local area.

There are currently 70 children from 2.5 years to 4 years on roll, This includes 27 funded three year olds. Children attend a variety of sessions. The children come from differing social backgrounds and none of them have English as an additional language. One child has special educational needs.

The group opens five day a week during term time. Sessions are from 9.15am to 11.45am and 12.45pm to 15.15pm. The children are grouped in two rooms, one room used for funded children each morning and afternoon.

11 staff work with the children, some part time, 6 have early years qualifications. All staff are on training programmes. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.(EYDCP) They are currently involved in the Pre School Learning Alliance, (PLA) quality accreditation system

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Todmorden community playgroup provides a very warm and welcoming environment to the children where they make very good progress towards the early learning goals. Children are very confident for their ages and communicate very well with each other. There is a particularly rich environment with children having a lot access to natural materials.

The quality of teaching is of a high standard. The staff team are well qualified, experienced and provide good role models for the children. All staff question and challenge children very well to extend their learning. Staff have a good understanding of the early learning goals and what is expected of them and they provide a very interesting curriculum with emphasis on the natural world. Staff are enthusiastic about their work and constantly review their work. Planning is done very carefully to cover all areas of learning but is flexible to accommodate children's spontaneity. Planning gives emphasis to using the outdoor environment. Good systems are in place for caring for children with special educational needs. Staff are experienced and have very good individual play plans in place.

The leadership and management is very good. Staff have specific roles and are clear about what is expected of them. Staff training is a strong feature. The manager constantly reviews and evaluates the provision to improve the quality of care.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are well informed about their child's progress, both written and verbally. Parents are welcomed and valued and encouraged to be involved in their child's shared learning but new parents are not aware that they will receive written reports on their children and are not quite sure what written records are at present kept

What is being done well?

- Children are very confident and independent
- Children's language is very good they make their needs and wishes known and communicate very well with others
- Exploration of the natural world through natural and interesting materials and the outdoor environment
- Teaching - staff question children very effectively and extend their learning very well

What needs to be improved?

- Information for new parents on what records and information is stored on their child

What has improved since the last inspection?

First inspection

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in personal, social and emotional development. They are very confident with each other and eager to try out new activities and experiment. They concentrate very well and have high good levels of independence. They are given very good opportunities to learn about other cultures and beliefs

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in communication, language and literacy. They are confident to make their needs and wishes known and communicate very well with children and adults. They are learning to concentrate very well and can listen well and sometimes re-tell stories in role play.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in mathematics. Staff utilise everyday situations to extend children's understanding of counting, simple addition, and subtraction. Children have very good concepts of shape, space, measure and confidently compare sizes. They have numerous good opportunities to recognise and create patterns through weaving and the resources promoted by staff. Children count very well and are starting to recognise some numerals.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world. There are numerous good opportunities for the children to explore their local environment and the natural world by bringing the outdoors indoors. They explore the living world very well. They are learning to design and build objects out of a good range of materials. There are good opportunities to learn about cultures and beliefs of themselves and other people

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in physical development, they use a wide range of tools with good control. Children move very well in dance showing good special awareness, of themselves and others. They show a good awareness of healthy practices with regard to eating, sleeping and good hygiene, contribute to good health. They are learning well that tools have to be used safely.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are making very good progress in creative development. There are very good opportunities for music and dance and exploration of shape. Children use their imagination well in role play and often re-tell stories in role 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:

- points for consideration are;
- Provide information for new parents stating what records and information is stored on their child

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.