



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 251678

DfES Number: 548036

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	11/11/2004
Inspector Name	Julie Youngman (TCCI)

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Stowupland Pre-school
Setting Address	Freeman CP School Church Road, Stowupland STOWMARKET SUFFOLK IP14 4BQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Stowupland Pre-School 1022718
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Stowupland Pre-School
Address	Freeman CP School Church Road, Stowupland Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4BQ

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

Stowupland Pre-School is a committee run community group and has been established for over twenty years.

Sessions are currently held in a classroom in Stowupland Primary School grounds, Stowupland, Suffolk, however the pre-school is intending to move into it's own purpose built premises on the Primary School in the near future.

The pre-school is registered for fifteen children and is open for seven sessions a week.

There are four members of staff, three of these staff hold NVQ level 3 or equivalent child care qualifications. The fourth member of staff is on an appropriate training course.

The pre-school offers support to children who may have special needs and who's first language is not English. The pre-school are members of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Stowupland Pre-school provides high quality nursery education which enables children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals in all six areas of learning.

Teaching is very good. Staff are confident and secure in their understanding of the early learning goals. Many exciting and worthwhile activities are planned that motivate and engage the children in learning. Staff assess and record their progress through the stepping stones and use this information in future planning. Staff effectively question and develop conversations that enable the children to learn through their own experiences and to progress well in all areas. There is a high ratio of competent staff who readily engage with the children. The routine for sessions is quite rigid because some facilities are shared with the school. Sometimes opportunities for children to engage and interact with each other in prolonged play is limited.

The staff make a very effective team led by the two experienced and capable supervisors. They are excellent role models for the children. The pre-school is valued by the primary school and part of the local community. The management is committed to improving the care and education for all the children. The pre-school is successfully raising money to provide a new building within the school grounds.

Parents are given good clear information about the pre-school and how their children are learning. They are involved as helpers in the sessions, in fundraising, and on the committee. They have very good opportunities to share information about their children's progress at the beginning of each session and staff are available every Friday afternoon.

What is being done well?

- Staff use excellent strategies to promote good behaviour and respect for themselves and others. Their calm and polite manner sets a very good example for the children.
- Good emphasis is put on providing rich opportunities to learn about other cultures and beliefs. Celebrating Dvalli included creating an Indian restaurant, making lamps with clay, listening to stories and getting involved in role play.
- Children listen very carefully and respond enthusiastically to adult direction. Staff encourage the children to talk about their own experiences and with sensitive support extend their abilities to communicate their thoughts and ideas.
- There is excellent provision for learning about mathematics. Children initiate activities within a carefully planned environment that promotes talking and thinking mathematically. Staff skilfully consolidate and extend the children's

experience of number and calculating. Children count in 2's, add 1 more, repeat patterns and recognise numerals.

- The pre-school staff, parents and committee are a very effective team. They are working together to raise funds to provide a new pre-school building to improve the education of all the children.

What needs to be improved?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● provision of equipment for the children to use I.C.T.● opportunities when the children interact with each other

What has improved since the last inspection?
Not applicable

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children's behaviour is excellent. Good routines and timetabled activities encourage the children to feel secure and to develop very positive attitudes to learning. The children concentrate and persevere making clay Dawali lamps. They are encouraged to use their own ideas developing self confidence and self esteem. Lots of praise supports the children to respond very positively to adult direction. They have a sense of belonging. All enjoy tidying up together until everything is done.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
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The children have many good opportunities to develop their speech and language. Staff listen well and plan excellent activities that encourage the children to express their ideas and thoughts. Children sound letters and are learning about reading and writing. They enjoy a variety of books and stories and join in rhymes and songs that encourage the development of good communication skills.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Teaching of mathematics is excellent. Staff confidently plan purposeful activities that enable the children to learn about shape, space and measure. Children use equipment for threading beads and are given exceptional support to enjoy and learn through the activity. They are learning about patterns, counting in 1's and 2's, colouring and calculating. Staff effectively intervene in the children's play encouraging them think and speak mathematically.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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There are very many good resources and planned activities for children to learn about their environment. Staff initiate and join in conversations using skilful and sensitive questioning that encourages the children to extend their vocabulary and knowledge about their own experiences in the world. Excellent planning and resources for role play enable the children to explore and learn about their own and other cultures.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children move confidently and safely around the classroom. They are confident and controlled playing with beanbags and hoops outside. They are aware of the importance of healthy eating and the importance of good hygiene. They handle clay, tools and construction materials with increasing skills.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are given many quality opportunities to explore colour, texture, shape and space in two and three dimensions. They mould, squeeze and smooth clay to make lamps, decorating with sequins, and experiment with glue, paint and coloured sand and rice. Staff support the children to express and develop their own ideas. Resources to build imagination through role play and stories are very good. Singing and music is fostered well.	
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 the following:
- to extend the provision of equipment for the children to use I.C.T.
- the planning of more prolonged opportunities when the children interact with each other

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.