



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY255819

DfES Number:

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	04/12/2003
Inspector Name	Janet Stacey

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Kinder Castle
Setting Address	75 New North Road Huddersfield HD1 5ND

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The partnership of Mrs Rachel Louise Wright and Mr Nigel John Wright
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Mrs Rachel Louise Wright and Mr Nigel John Wright
Address	75 New North Road Huddersfield HD1 5ND

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care in accordance with the National Standards for Under Eights Day Care and Childminding; and 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

Kinder Castle Day Nursery operates in a listed detached dwelling within walking distance of the centre of Huddersfield. The nursery has been registered since 2003. The building has been converted into three ground floor rooms for babies 0 - 1 years, first floor rooms for children up to 3 years, and a second floor play area for children up to 5 years. There are kitchen, laundry and toilet facilities on site. There is an enclosed area to the rear of the property for outdoor play.

The nursery offers full day care or sessional care. There are 50 children on roll of which two 3 year olds are in receipt of nursery education funding. No children attend with special needs, or have English as an additional language. The nursery opens from 07:30 until 18:00 Monday to Friday.

The setting employs ten members of staff who all hold relevant childcare qualifications. The nursery employs a qualified cook. The setting is seeking support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Kinder Castle Day Nursery provides satisfactory quality of care for children.

The premises are bright and welcoming to parents and children. Careful consideration has been given to grouping of children. Opportunities exist for children of different ages to mix. Staff are not always deployed effectively. Appropriate qualified staff are not in place for all supervisory roles within the setting. All the required documentation is in place but some need attention.

Staff have an understanding of keeping children safe. However, some areas of safety need to be addressed. Hygiene routines are in place but some are inconsistently applied. The nursery has experience of providing special diets and keep records of children's daily intake. Children's own routines are respected and additional information is sought to enable children to settle. The designated person

has clear knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. However, the child protection procedure is not clear

Relationships between the staff and children are good. Staff are warm and welcome children individually into the provision. Children are confident and they relate well to each other. There is a very good range of activities and equipment available both indoors and outdoors. Limited resources are in place to promote positive images. Children behave well and are happy and settled when supported by the staff.

The setting has a strong commitment to working in partnership with parents. Information is shared daily about the children with parents and systems are in place to provide additional written information in respect of the aims of the setting.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Attention was required to documentation relating to staff details. Staff records are now in place and cover the staff's suitability to work with children and highlight their training qualifications and progress with future training

Approval was required by the Environmental Health and Fire Departments. Both of these have visited the nursery and given approval for any concerns relating to their regulations.

Attention was required to the safety of the building both internal and external. The majority of safety requirements are now in place, with the exception of keeping fire exits clear.

The nursery was required to obtain public liability insurance. This is now in place.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide a very good range of activities and experiences for the children that are fun, interesting and stimulating, especially sensory experiences. This results in children becoming very involved, excited and interested in their play.
- There are good opportunities for children to make their own decisions and choices, encouraging their independence skills. The relationships and interaction between the staff and children are very good. Staff encourage and support children's development and learning very well, ensuring their individual needs are met.
- The children respond well to staff and seek out activities that staff are involved in. Children play well together, they show respect and concern for others and their behaviour is good. Staff have a high regard to promoting children's positive behaviour.
- Relationships with parents are good. There are opportunities for them to contribute their ideas, through forums and discussions, for example. Good information is provided for parents regarding the setting and they have access to all the nursery's policies and procedures.

What needs to be improved?

- hygiene procedures
- safety with regard to daily vigilance
- the deployment of staff
- documentation with regard to medication, child protection procedures and visitors records
- access to drinking water
- resources to promote positive images.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
2	Ensure child/adult ratios are maintained during meal times, and an effective system is in place to record visitors to the setting.	04/12/2003
2	Develop and implement an action plan that sets out how supervisors will achieve a level 3 qualification.	18/12/2004
6	Conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying action to be taken to minimize identified risks, with particular regard to radiator pipes, door closers, and an arrival and collection policy, fire exits.	04/12/2003
7	Ensure good hygiene practices are in place regarding hand washing routines, written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children, storage of comforters, and the siting of toilet rolls.	04/12/2003
8	Ensure fresh drinking water is made available at all times.	04/12/2003

13	Ensure that the child protection procedure for the nursery complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures, and a system is in place to record existing injuries.	04/12/2003
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The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
9	Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Kinder Castle Private Day Nursery provides a comfortable, stimulating and welcoming learning environment for young children. Children are happy, sociable and confident. Children make generally good progress in personal, social and emotional development; communication, language and literacy; creative development; and knowledge and understanding of the world. However, staff do not have a sound understanding of the early learning goals, and children's progress is limited by some significant weaknesses in mathematic development and physical development

The quality of teaching is generally good. Relationships with children are warm, friendly and supportive. Staff interact very well and are involved with the children at their level. There is a very good range of resources that includes many natural materials. An interesting and varied range of activities is planned and provided for self-selection, and children show increasing independence in choosing toys and activities. However, the planning and evaluation of activities, and assessment of children's learning, does not enable staff to have a clear idea of individual children's level of understanding. Teaching support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership has been requested. Staff have high expectations of children's conduct and encourage children's good behaviour.

Leadership and management of the nursery is generally good. The proprietor and manager demonstrate a commitment to improvement and a positive attitude towards staff training and development. There are no formal systems in the nursery to identify deployment of staff.

Partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are provided with some written information on the setting and the curriculum. Relationships are established through the keyworker system, parents' evenings, daily reports and children's record of achievement portfolios.

What is being done well?

- Children are happy, sociable and confident and have good relationships with the staff, who interact well at the children's level, and involve themselves in their play.
- Children have free access to all areas of the curriculum. This is presented in a child-centred environment in which children are able to self-select from a range of activities throughout the day.
- Parents are happy that their child is settled and find staff approachable, friendly and caring. They are well-informed of their children's progress.
- Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour, are supportive, and promote positive behaviour with the use of praise and encouragement.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Management are committed to improvement and staff training and development. |
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What needs to be improved?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● the staff's knowledge of the early learning goals to enable them to effectively plan for, and assess, individual children's learning and progress● the challenges for children to solve simple problems of weight and measurement through everyday practical activities● the opportunities to sort objects into categories, count, and recognise numbers in a variety of situations● the challenges and opportunities for children to explore a variety of ways of movement.

What has improved since the last inspection?
Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are making generally good progress. They are interested, motivated and show a good level of concentration in activities. Staff help them to feel secure and maintain confident relationships. Children are developing confidence in selecting activities and tackling problems. Children do not have many opportunities to develop their independence in self care and self-help skills. Children show care and concern for each other.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children make generally good progress. They interact, and talk with peers and adults, use appropriate vocabulary, and are able to form fluent sentences. They have good listening and speaking skills in group situations. Children make marks and some are beginning to write recognisable letters and drawings. Children's ability to develop early reading and writing skills through practical play experiences is limited.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Significant Weaknesses
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Children's progress is limited by some significant weaknesses. Children are able to match and describe shapes, and use positional language. Some three year old children understand simple calculation. Children have limited opportunities to recognise numbers and understand the sequence of numbers in the environment, or to develop confidence to count everyday objects, record numbers, and join in number songs. Their ability to develop an understanding of simple mathematical problems is limited.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children's progress is generally good. They show curiosity and observe things in the environment. Children investigate and observe the natural world and changes in state. Children investigate a range of construction materials and a range of tools and resources for assembling and joining materials. Lack of programmable resources limits the children's development of skills in this area. There are some opportunities to investigate and understand how everyday things work.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Significant Weaknesses
Children's progress is limited by some significant weaknesses. Children move with confidence and increasing control, and are aware of personal space. Children are able to handle a variety of tools for markmaking, and small and large construction activities, and are developing fine and gross motor skills. There are limited opportunities for the children to explore a variety of ways of movement, to move imaginatively to music, and to control items of equipment.	

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children make generally good progress. They explore colours effectively through painting, collage and drawing. All children use opportunities to explore texture and shape in two and three dimensional form. The children use their imagination to express themselves through role play. Opportunities for children to join in and enjoy a familiar repertoire of songs and actions are limited. Children are encouraged to describe what they see, hear, smell, touch and feel.	

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally 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: THE KEY ISSUES

- improve staff knowledge of the early learning goals to enable them to effectively plan for, and assess, individual children's learning and progress
- extend the opportunities and challenges for children to solve simple problems of weight and measurement through everyday practical activities, sort objects into categories, count, and recognise numbers in a variety of situations
- extend the challenges and opportunities for children to explore a variety of ways of movement.

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.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.