



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 310273

DfES Number: 544227

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	24/03/2005
Inspector Name	Susan, Helen Spencer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Pendle View Nursery
Setting Address	Pendleview Day Nursery Lovely Hall Lane, Salesbury Blackburn Lancashire BB1 9EQ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Pendle View Nursery Ltd 4208642
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Pendle View Nursery Ltd
Address	Houghton Farm Osbaldeston Lane, Osbaldeston Blackburn Lancashire BB2 7LY

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

Pendle View Day Nursery was established in November 2000. It occupies a detached house in a rural area with open aspects and caters for children from a wide area. The accommodation comprises a babyroom for children aged 3 months to two years old, two rooms for 2-3 year olds and upstairs there are a further two rooms for pre-school children. There is also a secure outdoor play area which is covered with astra turf, has a veranda at one end and can be accessed by patio doors from the babyroom. There are toilet facilities, a nappy changing area and a fully fitted kitchen.

The nursery is registered to care for 38 children aged from 3 months to 5 years and there are currently 57 children on roll, including 12 funded 3 year olds and 6 funded 4 year olds. The nursery is open 51 weeks in the year and operates from 7:30 to 18:00 on Monday to Friday and offers full day care and part-time care.

The staff team consist of the manager, 3 senior staff and a further 5 nursery nurses. All work full time and are qualified in early years. There is also an additional member of staff who is working towards a National Vocational Qualification in Childcare and Education at level two.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Pendle View Nursery provides an educational programme of high quality. The children are making very good progress in all six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. The staff have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals and the foundation stage. They plan very interesting activities with goals for children's learning in mind. They use good methods to teach children allowing plenty of time for them to freely choose, interspersed with some teacher-directed activities. They remain flexible at all times and adapt challenges according to the ages and stages of children's development. The staff are very caring and calm in their approach. They give clear explanations and encourage the children to use good manners. The children respond well to them. The nursery is well resourced and staff use all that is available to them. Staff keep some records of children's progress, but these are unwieldy. They have recognised this as an area to work on next.

The nursery is well led and managed. The staff meet regularly to discuss organisational matters and they also informally discuss the planning. They are keen to improve and attend several workshops and training. They evaluate the activities in terms of children's learning and are well aware of the strengths and aspects for development.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. The brochure has good information and planning is exhibited for parents and carers to view. They are given very good information about the educational programme and have very good opportunities to become involved in children's learning through home link sheets. A good rapport has been established with parents and carers who are welcomed into nursery on a daily basis. The sharing of information gathered in assessment records is less well developed.

What is being done well?

- The staff plan interesting activities that capture the children's interest and imagination, for example, the children look at chicks and then make an Easter card painting their own chick drawing on their observations. When one child wanted to paint a sheep, the staff helped him to do so.
- The staff place good emphasis on developing children's personal independence and building self-esteem. The children are confident, proud of their achievements, they respond well to staff and are polite and well-behaved. The staff make children feel important and valued. Consequently, the children show very good levels of initiative and do not hesitate to make suggestions.
- The staff are very enthusiastic, calm and caring and they enjoy their work.

Their enthusiasm is contagious and helps instill into children enthusiasm for the activities on offer. This results in children developing good attitudes towards learning.

- Relationships at the nursery are good. The staff work well together. A very good level of interaction takes place in this relaxed and happy atmosphere. Staff use their communication with the children very well to encourage them to think about why things happen and how things work, to build the children's self confidence and their use of language. The staff ask questions, such as "Why do we need to melt the butter?" to which a child answered "to make it stick together!"

What needs to be improved?

- the strategies for the assessment and recording of children's progress and how information gathered in children's assessment records is shared with parents and carers and their comments sought.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

The children enjoy coming to nursery and are keen to join in all that is on offer. They are developing very good levels of self-confidence and self-esteem. They take pride in their achievements and are keen to offer ideas and show initiative. They are developing very good attitudes towards learning. They work well together and are learning to take turns and to share. They show very good levels of personal independence. They learn about other cultures as well as their own.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

The children interact well. They are learning to listen to each other and are becoming confident speakers keen to share their ideas. They use a wide vocabulary. The children use language very well to communicate their thoughts. They are learning to identify some letters and the sounds that they make. Their writing skills are progressing very well. They help to make labels for the 'garden centre'. They sign their Easter cards and practise writing their names. The children handle books well.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

The children are developing very good levels of confidence in counting, for example, the number of small plastic objects. They know a very good range of number songs which they act out well. They are learning to recognise and record numbers. They have very good opportunities to practise their mathematical skills. They measure the height of the flowers they are growing. They are developing good spatial awareness when building models with boxes.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Several interesting activities provide very good opportunities for children to look closely at living things and to record their observations. Their designing and building skills are very good. They use recyclable materials very well. The children independently use the nursery computer very well to support their learning in other areas, such as mathematics. They are developing a good sense of passing time. They learn about features in the environment by the effective use of the role-play area.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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The children are developing very good levels of confidence in climbing and balancing using apparatus in the outdoor area. Their sense of the space required for their movements is very good. They use wheeled toys with increasing skill manoeuvring them around the other activities. They are developing very good health and bodily awareness and are learning to take care of their own personal hygiene. They use tools and materials very well, for example, handling scissors safely and with good control.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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The children have very good opportunities to freely explore paint. Their ability to use paint well reflects the amount of practice they have had. Their representational paintings are very good. They use their imagination very well, for example, when making models or acting out scenarios in the role-play area. The children respond well to the creative activities, adding their own ideas and staff remain flexible and build on children's interests, allowing them to develop their own creativity.

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:
- consolidate methods of assessing and recording the children's progress towards the early learning goals in all six areas. Make sure that the information gathered in the assessment records is shared regularly with parents and carers encouraging them to contribute their observations.

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.