



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253796

DfES Number: 515503

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/09/2004
Inspector Name Jayne Lesley Taylor

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Cradley Play Nursery
Setting Address 12-18 Lyde Green
Halesowen
West Midlands
B63 2PG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Ann Richards

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

Cradley Play Nursery opened in 1972. It operates from four rooms in a single storey building in Halesowen. The nursery serves the local and surrounding areas.

There are currently 70 children from 0 to 5 years on roll. This includes six funded three year olds and two funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with special needs, and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 08.00 until 18:00.

Eleven part time and 9 full time staff work with the children. Over half of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from an advisory teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Cradley Play Nursery provides good quality care for children. Effective recruitment and induction procedures are in place, with the majority of staff are qualified. Space is organised so that children have appropriate experiences relevant to their age and stage of development. All staff actively welcome both parents and children, children's work is displayed well to offer a welcoming environment. An extensive range of equipment and toys are available, fully meeting the needs of the children attending. Parents can have access to their child's personal documentation at their request. A good range of policies and procedures are in place to support practice.

A high level of safety is maintained both inside and outside the building with staff having a good understanding of safety issues. Ongoing risk assessments are undertaken to remove hazards. CCTV monitors are in place. Good hygiene routines are in place for staff and children. Fresh meals are cooked on sight daily. Staff fully include children and support their understanding of differences and self worth,

children are continually praised and acknowledged. All staff are aware of their child protection responsibilities.

Children undertake an extensive range of play opportunities and experiences that are appropriate to their individual age and stage of development. Concise recording is in place for all children. There is an excellent level of verbal interaction and care between staff and children. Good planning ensures that children's achievements are identified and extended. Staff fully include children with special needs and have a good understanding of supporting legislation. Positive strategies are in place to support children's behaviour and self esteem with positive reinforcement however there is no procedure in place for recording physical intervention.

Staff work fully alongside parents to meet children's needs. Parents are fully informed of all aspects of the provision.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection it was agreed that documentation would be updated and detail arrival and departure times of children, staff and visitors. Work practice would be supported by developing policies for lost or uncollected children and sick children. All are now in place.

What is being done well?

- Children's self esteem, skills and knowledge is developed and encouraged by children being actively involved in their learning.
- Birth to Three matters is being used effectively to support the care and education of younger children.
- Staff have a good understanding of current legislation including the Code of Practice for special educational needs.
- The majority of staff working with the children are qualified and staff attend training to update their skills and knowledge.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedure for recording use of physical intervention with children.

Outcome of the inspection

Good

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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
11	Develop a procedure for recording physical intervention with children.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Cradley Play Nursery provides very good quality nursery education overall which enables children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is very good, all staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals, they understand how children develop and learn. They offer children a range of activities and experiences to extend their learning. Staff fully understand how recording and assessment is used to inform planning. Staff provide opportunities and encourage children to make decisions about what they are doing, what they would like to do. Although no children with special educational needs or with English as an additional language are attending there is planning in place to provide support if required. Children have full opportunities to express their ideas and thoughts and are encouraged to extend the learning relevant to their age and level of understanding.

Leadership and management is very good. Staff are very clear about their roles and responsibilities, they have a good understanding of the provisions strengths and weaknesses. Staff attend training to update their skills and knowledge. Key personnel set expectations for staff and monitor with full support and guidance.

Partnership with parents is very good. There are formal and informal systems in place for informing parents about their children's achievements and progress. Full records are maintained and shared with parents. Parents are actively encouraged to share what they know about their children, however there are limited resources that enable parents to be involved with their child's learning.

What is being done well?

- Children are encouraged to participate and take responsibility for, and extend their own learning.
- Staff have a good understanding of the foundation stage and the early learning goals and are clear about their roles and responsibilities. They fully support children in their learning at all stages.
- Good planning ensures that children's individual needs are identified and met.
- Parents are encouraged into the setting at any time to discuss their child's progress.

What needs to be improved?

- the resources that support parents involvement in their child's learning.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are enthusiastic upon arrival and undertake familiar and new activities willingly and confidently. They take responsibility for their own care and that of other children. Children manage their own behaviour well, and are aware of the feelings of others. They approach adults confidently and make their needs known. Children have a sense of their own identity within their family and the wider community.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children talk confidently to peers and adults making known their feelings, using language freely and expressively. Children are making good links between sounds and letters and can recognise written words, using a variety of media to write and make marks. They make independent choices of books and other reading materials and are beginning to read to themselves and others.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have a good understanding of positional language and use it confidently when completing required tasks and solving problems. They use counting throughout their play, with good recognition of numerals. Children undertake adding and subtracting confidently showing an understanding of use within everyday activities.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children have a good understanding about the features of living things and are aware of the process of change. They freely discuss features of the living world and relay their experiences. Children design and construct using a range of objects and methods. They access a very good range of everyday technology freely and unsupported.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and freely with good control and co ordination. They have a good understanding of the need for different actions to extend their play i.e. when they need to balance, walk, run. Children extend their play by being aware of other materials that they can use in an activity. They are aware that they need food, drink and sleep to keep healthy.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children use a wide range of media available. Children understand the use of various instruments and access different styles of music comparing their content. Children use their imagination throughout a range of activities and experiences, they competently communicate their ideas and experiences.

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
- extending parents involvement in their children's learning.

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.