



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 206217

DfES Number: 518653

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/09/2004
Inspector Name Diana Pidgeon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Children 1st at Breedon House - Main Street
Setting Address 18a Main Street
Long Eaton
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG10 1GR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Children 1st at Breedon House 03207571

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Children 1st at Breedon House
Address 168 Derby Road
Long Eaton
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG10 4BJ

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

Children First at Breedon House Main Street opened in 1995. It is one of several nurseries within the chain of Breedon House Children's Centres. The nursery is situated in Long Eaton and serves both the local and surrounding areas. Children are accommodated, according to age, in two main areas on the ground floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 07:30 to 18:00 throughout the year, closing only for Bank Holidays and one week at Christmas. There are currently 54 children from 5 months to 4 years on roll. This includes 15 funded 3-year-olds and 4 funded 4-year-olds. There are 10 nursery staff, 8 of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. Two members of staff are currently working towards a recognised qualification.

The nursery has achieved the Investors in People award and the National Day Nurseries Association Accreditation scheme "Quality Counts". It is also an approved CACHE training centre.

How good is the Day Care?

Children First at Breedon House Main Street provides good quality care for children.

Effective systems are in place to ensure well qualified and motivated staff work with the children and provide consistency of care, especially for babies. Staff work well together to provide a supportive and caring environment. The nursery is bright and child-centred. All areas have interesting and stimulating toys and equipment that are used to promote children's development, learning and understanding of the wider community. Comprehensive policies and procedures guide the efficient and safe management of the nursery. Clear information is attractively displayed in the nursery, although not all certificates are current.

Staff pay high regard to children's safety and demonstrate a good understanding of their responsibilities with regard to child protection. Care is taken to minimise the risk

of cross infection through staff implementing the clear hygiene procedures. Meal times are social occasions where children's individual dietary needs are catered for and independence skills encouraged. The menus offered are nutritious and offer a healthy balanced diet for children.

Staff plan a broad, balanced curriculum throughout all areas of the nursery. Children learn through first hand experiences and handling a wide range of materials. Resources are used effectively to encourage babies and children to explore using all their senses. Staff extend children's learning through their positive interaction and encourage the development of independence skills. Children benefit from regular access to outdoor play and group singing and story times in all areas. Children's behaviour is very good and fostered sensitively by staff. There are good support systems in place for children who have special needs.

The partnership with parents is good. Staff work closely with parents and keep them informed of their child's progress. There are many ways for parents to be involved.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has effectively addressed the three actions raised at the last inspection. The provider agreed to make parents aware of the address and telephone number of the regulator, to ensure registers are completed as children arrive and to ensure staff follow the policy concerning the storage of bed linen. The details about the regulator are now included in the complaint procedure that is shared with parents, so ensuring they have the relevant information. Revised systems ensure the daily register is marked as children arrive, which improves overall safety. Children's bed linen is now stored in individual, labelled containers which minimises any risk of cross-infection.

What is being done well?

- Effective recruitment, induction and opportunities for staff training and development ensure a high quality team of staff work with the children. Staff are knowledgeable, motivated and form good relationships with children and parents.
- Staff plan and provide very good quality play that interests and challenges children. Through their observation of individuals they understand what children know and plan for their next steps in learning.
- Children benefit from healthy, nutritious snacks and meals. Mealtimes in all areas are sociable occasions where staff sit and eat with the children, encouraging good manners and independence.
- Staff skilfully manage children's behaviour. They create a calm environment throughout the nursery and are positive role models. The frequent use of praise and encouragement fosters children's self-esteem and confidence.
- There are open and friendly relationships with parents that encourage a two-way flow of information about the children and their progress. Clear and detailed written information is available and there are ways in which parents

can be actively involved in the nursery, for example through the steering committee.

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Opportunities for children to heighten the awareness of their senses are given high priority. Staff have incorporated activities and provided resources to stimulate the senses in all areas of the nursery. The baby area offers a sensory corner where babies can explore a wide range of textures with their hands and feet, smell a variety of pleasant fragrances, listen as the hangings make sounds in response to their movement and watch the lights. Heuristic play is incorporated into the weekly planning and this gives the youngest children a good foundation on which to build further sensory play as they move through the nursery.

What needs to be improved?

- the systems for ensuring certificates displayed are current.

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
14	Review systems to ensure any certificates displayed on the premises are current.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Children First at Breedon House Main Street offers high quality nursery education where children make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

Children are accommodated in a stimulating environment. They show enthusiasm for and are keen to participate in the many exciting activities provided. The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a secure knowledge of the foundation stage and this enables them to plan a broad curriculum that covers all areas of learning. The effective use of planning, observation and assessment ensures all children make progress. Staff have high expectations of what children can achieve and use every opportunity to consolidate and extend children's learning.

The leadership and management of the nursery are very good. Management provide clear direction for the nursery and take positive steps to evaluate the educational provision and continually improve practice. The staff team are highly motivated and benefit from the management commitment to personal development and on-going training.

The partnership with parents is very good. The nursery recognises the benefits of establishing good relationships with parents and offers good quality written and verbal information as well as a thorough induction procedure. Parents are able to work closely with the nursery in many ways and there are regular opportunities for them to exchange information about their child's achievements and progress.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is a strength of the setting. Children are eager to learn and keen to take part in the many activities offered. They demonstrate a clear sense of respect and care for each other, the resources and the environment. Children behave very well.
- Staff work well as a team and are good role models for the children. They are all confident practitioners who use their strengths and interests to broaden children's experiences.
- Children learn through practical experiences. They experiment, observe and question how and why things happen.
- Daily routines, and the skilled management of free play ensures children are purposefully engaged and learning at all times. The arrangement of the activities and resources allows children to make independent decisions.
- Children sit and listen attentively to staff and each other at group times. Children are confident to express their own ideas and respectful when listening to others.

What needs to be improved?

- the use of the outdoors to extend children's learning in all areas.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Very good progress has been made in addressing the points for consideration identified at the last inspection. These suggested that staff encourage children to ask more questions, to allow children more time to sustain imaginative work and to better engage children at group times.

Since that inspection the nursery has effectively reorganised the accommodation to allow children to free-flow between areas. This enables them to have time to develop their ideas fully, such as imaginative games in the role-play areas or to complete a complex construction. Staff skilfully engage children at group times by ensuring they are all aware of the expectation to sit and listen and by making group times interesting. The use of visual aids and lots of child participation ensures these are enjoyable times for the children and offer lots of learning opportunities. Staff encourage children's curiosity and through their interaction encourage children to question why things happen and how things work. They have plenty of time to experiment, predict and test out their ideas within the daily routine.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are interested and motivated to learn. They display high levels of concentration and involvement in the activities. Children's independence is promoted as they decide where to play, select resources and attend to their personal needs. Children are well behaved and sensitive to the needs of others.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children have many purposeful opportunities to talk and listen and as a result are confident, fluent speakers and attentive listeners. They enjoy books and handle them carefully. All children write within their play, such as shopping lists, and attempt to label their work. They recognise their names and many simple words they see in the environment. Older children confidently link sounds and letters and begin to form letters correctly.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident in counting and using mathematical language in all areas of their play. Their understanding is reinforced through daily routines like laying the table, the date and counting children present. They compare size, recognise shape and perform simple calculations as they cut vegetables to make soup. Children recognise numbers at the vegetable shop and count money as they play.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children explore and investigate a wide range of materials and living things using all their senses. They look closely at change when using clay. Through topics like "Autumn" they develop an understanding of time and place. Children competently design and build using large bricks, small construction and recycled materials. They are developing a good understanding of their own and other cultures through activities and resources. Children competently use technology to support their learning.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move around the environment with confidence and good control, showing a good awareness of space as they dance, push buggies and use wheeled toys. Older children are extended through the effective use of large equipment and encouragement to extend skills such as jumping and hopping. Children have very good access to tools and small equipment, which they use with increasing skill, for example to draw, cut, join and construct. Children understand the importance of keeping healthy.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children experience a rich environment where creativity is valued. They use all of their senses when handling the wide range of materials available for them to explore. Children are very imaginative as they buy and sell at the vegetable shop, or share their feelings when listening to music. Children record their ideas through paint, models and drawing. They participate enthusiastically in singing, dance and music sessions.

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:
- continue to develop the use of the outdoor area to maximise learning opportunities.

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.