



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 143725

DfES Number: 531275

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/11/2004  
Inspector Name Martha Naa Ahimah Darkwah

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Harmony Neighbourhood Nursery  
Setting Address Australia Road  
London  
W12 7PT

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Harmony Community Day Nursery 04153660 1087071

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Harmony Community Day Nursery  
Address Australia Road  
London  
W12 7PT

## 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

Harmony Neighbourhood Nursery is located on the White City Estate in Shepherds Bush in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. It opened in 2001 and operates in a purpose built building, with the play rooms named after planets, e.g. Jupiter, Saturn, Venus Pluto, Sun.

A maximum of 46 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each week day from 08:00 to 18:00 for 50 weeks of the year. All children have access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently 47 children aged 1 to 5 years on roll. Of these 23 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area, most parents travel in to work or attend training within the area. The nursery currently supports a number of children with special educational needs and a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 20 members of staff including staff not working directly with children.

Ten of the staff have early years qualification.

The nursery is a member of the Early Years Development Childcare Partnership, Hammersmith and Fulham and takes part in the National Day Nursery Association Quality Assurance schemes.

### How good is the Day Care?

Harmony Neighbourhood Nursery provides good quality care for children.

Suitably, qualified and experienced staff work well as a team to provide a variety of planned activities, that are age and developmentally appropriate for the children attending the nursery. They spend much of their time actively involved with the children, encouraging them to make their own choices about play. All the equipment is easily accessible to children.

The childrens' care, learning and play are well supported by the staff. The quality of play opportunities is very good and childrens' play experience are interesting and developmentally stimulating. The nursery is child centred with an excellent range of resources, many of which reflect positively the rich diversity within society. There are very good systems in place to support children's learning which results in children making good progress.

The staff give high priority to ensuring children are safe. Children are supervised at all times and staff ensure they are safe both inside and outside. Staff are active in promoting good hygiene practices. Children are provided with a healthy snack, they are encouraged to help at snack time and make independent choices. All the required documentation is in place. Staff and children have a good relationship. The adults communicate well with the children and act as good role models. treating them as individuals and with respect. This results in the children displaying good behaviour and relating well to the other children.

There is an excellent emphasis on the inclusion of all children which works very well in practice to ensure the specific individual needs of children are met.

Partnership with parents is valued. Parents are warmly welcomed, have good information about the setting, activities and outings. Good communication between staff and parents ensures that children's needs are met and they have a positive experience at the nursery.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to gain knowledge of and comply with local Area Child Protection Committee procedures. The special needs co-ordinator has attended a child protection course for the nominated person and attended an awareness course. Most of the staff have attended awareness training and demonstrated good working knowledge and understanding of the procedures. They will act in the interest of children if there is a concern.

The provider also agreed to eliminate potential hazards to staff and children when serving food from the trolley. There are good systems in place in regard to serving of food from the trolley that eliminates potential hazards.

#### **What is being done well?**

- The environment is very warm, welcoming and very child focused, staff greet the children with warmth and affection. The nursery is well organised to offer a variety of rich learning experiences for the children.
- Staff have excellent relationships with children. They adopt an active role in promoting children's learning. The activities supports the children's all round development well and extends childrens' language and thinking. The children are interested in their activities, happy and contented to be in the nursery.
- The staff interact well with the children. They are very attentive to their needs, ensuring the children have plenty of attention, praise and encouragement to

their everyday activities.

- Staff demonstrate very good knowledge and understanding of the behaviour management policies and procedures. They use different methods to resolve children's conflicts according to their age and understanding. This ensures the establishment of clear boundaries for the children's behaviour and consistency. Clear strategies are in place to support children's self esteem and help them cope and deal with their emotions.
- Staff promote good hygiene standards in routine and encourage children to develop these. There are good systems in place to ensure children's welfare and staff will act in children's best interest if they become ill.
- There are excellent systems in place to support children with special needs. The inclusive policy and the speech and language therapy group for all children has a positive impact on the children and helps meet their individual needs whilst supporting their all round development.

**An aspect of outstanding practice:**

There are excellent systems in place to support children with special needs within a positive inclusive environment. Good use is made of the space in the nursery and the quiet room. Each week children participate in the Speech and Language group using makaton sign language. The very good tracking systems are evaluated monthly and gaps in individual children's speech and language development is used to inform planning for the next steps.

**What needs to be improved?**

- the complaints procedure to include regulators contact details.

**PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)**

A concern was received on the 5th of August 2004. The concerns related to National Standards 2, National Standards 11, National Standards 14 and Appendix 7.

The provider was asked to investigate those concerns and we received the providers report on 19th of August 2004. The providers report covered all aspects of the concern and no evidence was found that National Standards had been breached. The provider remains qualified for registration.

**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.*

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

The educational provision at Harmony Neighbourhood Nursery is acceptable and of high quality. Children are making very good progress towards the Early Learning Goals in all six areas of learning.

Teaching standards are very good. Staff are secure in their knowledge and understanding of the Early Learning Goals. They use varied and appropriate teaching strategies to ensure that each child can make progress in their own way. Staff give valuable support to children with special needs. They work well with parents and outside agencies to devise sensible targets for the children. Staff work well to support and integrate children who do not speak English as their first language. Behaviour management is a strength in the nursery. The groups are well organised and the children benefit from a regular routine which helps them to feel secure. The nursery is well resourced. Staff have arranged toys and materials so that the children can choose activities and make decisions. Staff observe the children and make notes to share with parents. Notes and records are used well to help staff decide what children need to do next to make progress.

The quality of leadership and management is very good. Staff are encouraged to train for their professional development and to help them meet the needs of specific children in the nursery. The manager monitors and evaluates the provision for education. She takes an active role in the setting to support and motivate her staff.

The nursery has established a strong partnership with parents and carers which contributes to the children's progress. Ample good quality information is made available for parents so that they know what is offered in the nursery. Parents are kept well informed about children's achievements. Staff welcome observations and information about children at home. Parents are encouraged to share their knowledge, culture and skills with the children in the nursery.

### What is being done well?

- Behaviour management is very effective. Staff and children enjoy good relationships and there are clear boundaries for acceptable behaviour that are clearly understood by the children.
- The extension of children's vocabulary is very good. Staff speak to the children clearly, introduce many new words and explain meanings well.
- Children are learning a good range of terms to describe shape, position, size and quantity. They use correct terms with understanding.
- The children make good use of a modern computer and a camera to support their learning.
- The outside area is used very well. Staff have clear aims for the outdoor play

activities and the children are gaining confidence and agility.

- The displays of children's work throughout the building enhance and enrich the environment for children and serve to raise their self-esteem.

**What needs to be improved?**

- The displays of numbers in the nursery and the outdoor area.

**What has improved since the last inspection?**

Not applicable - this is the first education inspection for this nursery.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's independence is developed very well. Staff are successful in their management of children's behaviour. The children get along well together and show an interest in the needs and feelings of others. The development of children's respect and understanding of their own and other cultures is very good. The children are gaining self confidence and self-esteem from sincere praise from staff. They are motivated to learn and when settled they listen well.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Staff are very successful in developing children's speech and understanding. They work very well with those children who experience difficulty in expressing their thoughts and ideas. Children are gaining confidence and expertise in recognising letters of the alphabet by shape, name and sound. They make marks and label their own work. The children know how books work and they handle them well. They listen calmly to well told stories and are skilled at identifying rhyming words.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children say and use numbers confidently and correctly in familiar contexts. They recognise numbers up to five, some up to ten and beyond. Children talk about more and less with understanding. They know how to find out how many objects are left when one is removed and count to find out how many when one is added. Mathematical language is promoted well and children show a growing understanding. Although the children count well there are too few numbers on display.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are given a good range of objects and materials to handle and explore. Topic work is varied and interesting and helps to broaden children's knowledge of the world beyond the nursery. Visits and visitors extend the children experiences of the local area and the work of adults. Children learn about plants and what they need to grow. They make models with waste materials and construction toys. The children are skilled in using a modern computer and other technological equipment.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are developing agility and control over their limbs. They travel around and along fixed climbing equipment in the outdoor area showing confidence and good coordination. They use steps and wheeled toys confidently and show a good awareness of space. Staff help the children to develop their throwing and catching skills using small equipment. The children are gaining good skills with their hands.



**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children use an interesting selection of media and materials. They are encouraged to experiment and use the materials in their own way. Music making is enjoyed often. Children explore rhythm and volume and they sing songs enthusiastically. They enjoy role play and this area of learning is well resourced. The children express their thoughts and feelings with confidence. Resources and activities appeal to all of their senses over time.

**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:*

- No key issues for improvement were identified at this inspection. However, consideration should be given to making greater use of numbers for display in and around the nursery.

*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.*