



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253910

DfES Number: 533720

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/01/2005
Inspector Name	Patricia Dawes

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	TJ's Preschool
Setting Address	The Scout Hut Cotwall End Road, Lower Gornal Dudley West Midlands DY3 3EJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Mrs Jacqueline Worth & Mrs Tracy Brady
Address	5 Central Drive Dudley West Midlands DY3 2QE

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

TJ'S Playgroup is privately run, it opened in 1995. It operates from one room in a single storey building. It is situated in the scout hut in Lower Gornal close to Dudley. A maximum of 26 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. The playgroup is open each weekday from 09.00 to 11.30 for 36 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 16 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. Of these 15 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area as most of their parents travel in to work on or around the business park. There are currently no children with special educational needs or with English as an additional language attending, however there are effective systems in place to offer appropriate support.

The playgroup employs two staff. Both of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

TJ's Playgroup provides good quality nursery provision overall, which helps children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals. Provision for physical development is generally good; in all other areas progress is very good.

Quality of teaching is generally good. Staff have a sound knowledge of the foundation stage. They plan an interesting and exciting range of practical activities, which helps children to learn. Adult led activities are well managed, there is a good range of equipment available and resources are well organised. Children are developing good relationships with their peers and the staff. Staff manage children's behaviour well and have high expectations and set clear boundaries.

Staff use assessment records to identify the progress children are making towards the early learning goals, however these are not used to inform future planning. There are currently no children with special educational needs or with English as an additional language attending, however there is an effective system in place to offer appropriate support. The challenges set for children are good

Leadership and management are generally good, the playgroup benefits from two strong managers who work well in partnership. They constantly evaluate their practice through daily discussions and monitoring. A teacher/mentor and development officer from the EYDCP offer regular support and access to training opportunities.

Partnership with parents is very good and contributes well towards children's progress towards the early learning goals. Parents are well informed about the nursery ethos and curriculum. Children's progress in general is shared with parents and opportunities are provided for parents to view their child's assessment records and discuss issues with either of the managers.

What is being done well?

- Children are confident, motivated and keen to learn, they are encouraged to build positive relationships with both their peers and adults and demonstrate care and consideration for others. Children speak clearly and fluently.
- Children engage in a variety of activities that challenge and extend them supported by a wide selection of equipment. They demonstrate good concentration in adult led activities. They are interested and motivated to learn as a result of the staff's consistent interest and engagement in their play.
- Staff create a well planned, stimulating environment where children learn through a wide range of practical activities. They set challenges for children

that develop their thinking and imaginative skills through stories, registration time and consistent questioning during activities.

- The staff have high expectations of the children's behaviour and children respond to praise and encouragement for their achievements. The behaviour and attitude of the staff ensure that children have positive role models to follow.
- The setting provides good quality information about the provision, and parents are well informed about their child's achievements and progress.
- Commitment to training is demonstrated by staff attending and keeping up to date with relevant courses.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunities for children to experience physical play
- the use of children's progress and assessment records to inform future planning.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are self-assured, and curious. They interact and work well together, independently with their peers and with staff and other adults. They confidently express their needs and ideas and show pride in their achievements. They are very interested and involved in their play, which underpins their learning in many areas. Children negotiate well during play and work together well in group activities.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident and fluent speakers they engage easily in conversations with each other and with adults. Children are able to recall familiar stories and predict what will happen. Children link sounds and letters and some recognise their first name. They make marks and practise writing for a purpose through variety of role-play activities Children are aware that text carries meaning. They handle books appropriately and use speech to organise and explore real and imaginary experiences.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Some children count beyond ten and some recognise numerals to nine. Children learn about patterns and are developing an awareness of symmetry. They learn about shape and size through practical activities such as matching shapes in the environment. Children are beginning to become familiar with the concepts of addition and subtraction through familiar activities and number rhymes. Children use language to describe and compare shape, size and quantity in their everyday learning.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children learn about the natural world and features of the environment during planned activities. They study the life cycle of living creatures, plant seeds and watch them grow. Children are given the opportunity to discuss and learn about the cultures and beliefs of others, past, present and future events relating to themselves, their families and the wider community. They are becoming skilled at using a wide variety of resources to enable them to design and construct 3D objects.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are developing an awareness of a healthy lifestyle. They are beginning to recognise the importance of healthy eating and changes that occur in their bodies through exercise. Children are becoming competent in using the bathroom, and staff encourage children to dress and undress themselves. Children are given opportunities to activities and resources, which develop their co-ordination, control and fine skills, however this is not on a daily basis.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children develop their imagination and creativity through free, and structured activities, which include role-play, painting, and singing. They have good opportunities to explore texture through a varied range of media such as "Gloop", dough and collage. Children know their colours well and some can identify different shades. Children respond spontaneously and enthusiastically to all creative opportunities.

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 the opportunities for children to experience physical play
- ensure the recording and assessment of children's progress is used to inform future planning for the next step in each child's development.

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.