



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113811

DfES Number: 520379

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 24/06/2004
Inspector Name Ann Long

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Warnham Playgroup
Setting Address Village Hall, Hollands Way
Warnham
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 3RH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Warnham Community Playgroup 1053189

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Warnham Community Playgroup
Address Village Hall
Hollands Way, Warnham
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 3RH

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

Warnham Playgroup is a voluntary organisation which is run by a parent committee. It operates from the village hall in Warnham and serves the local area. Sessional day care is provided each Monday from 09:10 to 11:40 and from 12:00 to 14:30. On Tuesday to Friday the opening times are from 09:15 to 12:15. The playgroup operates during term time only. There are 34 children on the register from 2 years to under 5 years and these include funded 3 and 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are no children who speak English as an additional language and none of the children have special educational needs. There are 6 members of staff employed to work directly with the children. Of these, 3 have an Early Years qualification to level 3 and a further 2 members of staff are working towards a level 3 qualification. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Warnham Playgroup provides good quality care for children. Space is used effectively to provide children with appropriate areas in which to enjoy a variety of activities. This is a welcoming facility where children are very well supervised. There is a good range of toys, games and equipment for both indoor and outdoor play. All the required documents and procedures to support the organisation of the day care are available.

A safe environment is provided for the children. Staff are aware of potential hazards and effective measures are in place to address them. Suitable procedures promote the health and well being of children. There is a book which is used to record children's accidents but it is not always completed with the date or the time. The children are provided with a snack and a drink but consideration is not always given to variety of choice. Staff recognise the individual needs of the children and make sure that these are met. They have a good awareness of child protection procedures.

The children are eager to take part in all activities. Staff involvement in their play

enhances their enjoyment. Children are confident, happy and generally behave well. They respond to clear and sensitive guidance.

The staff have good relationships with parents, who are kept well informed of their children's progress. This information is shared verbally and in writing. Regular newsletters and a notice board displayed in the foyer keeps parents up to date with items of importance. Certificates and a portfolio of policies and procedures are clearly displayed. Records are stored securely and confidentiality is maintained.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The registration system has been updated to show the arrival and departure times for the children and staff. A record book has been introduced to record any significant incidents involving children in the playgroup. The complaints procedure has been updated to inform parents of the contact details of the regulator. The child protection policy now includes the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

What is being done well?

- Staff are effectively deployed throughout the setting. There are good registration systems which clearly show details of the children, staff, volunteers and visitors present.
- The staff interact very well with the children and know them as individuals. They organise and plan daily activities and provide resources to engage children's interest. This makes sure that they are well occupied and stimulated.
- This is a bright and comfortable playgroup for the children, with a large outside play space. It is situated in an appropriate location and the premises are secure and well maintained.
- There is a wide range of play materials and resources which promote diversity. A varied selection is made available for children on a daily basis. Children are able to choose activities which develop their imagination and independence.
- Children know the rules and boundaries in place and what is expected of them. Staff have a relaxed manner and act as positive role models. They focus on good behaviour, constantly praising and encouraging the children to behave well.

What needs to be improved?

- the recording of dates or times in the accident book

Outcome of the inspection

Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

<i>All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.</i>
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<i>As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.</i>

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
7	make sure that all entries in the accident book are recorded with the date and time
8	make sure that children's independence is encouraged by allowing them choices of snacks and drinks

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Warnham Playgroup provides high quality nursery education. It enables children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The overall quality of the teaching is generally good. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the foundation stage and use this to plan a balanced range of practical and play activities, however opportunities are missed during the daily programme to encourage children's understanding of number and the linking of sounds to letters. Staff acknowledge children's differing levels of ability and will extend activities for the more able children. Staff ensure that children have opportunities to be engaged in a variety of activities and also encourage children to initiate their own ideas, although on occasions staff do not always allow children to develop their independence. Staff set realistic boundaries with ongoing praise and encouragement in promoting good behaviour.

Leadership and management of the setting is very good. The supervisors and staff team work closely together and have a shared responsibility for planning, observing and assessing. A clear well organised system is in place to help staff evaluate and review the effectiveness of children's learning and the playgroup's practice. Staff are actively encouraged to attend further training and are supported by regular staff meetings. The playgroup committee and supervisors are committed to improvement in order to enhance the quality of the educational programme.

The partnership with the parents is very good. Parents and staff work well together and share information about children's individual progress and development, which is supported by a key worker system. Parents are welcomed into the group and encouraged to take an active role. They are clearly informed about the learning programme through the prospectus, portfolio, regular newsletters and the use of the parent/carer notice board.

What is being done well?

- Staff work well as a team to provide an interesting range of activities, good role models and a stimulating learning environment.
- Parents are actively involved in their children's learning and opportunities are provided for them to share information and extend their child's learning in their home.
- Relationships within the Playgroup are very good. Staff value every child as an individual and have a good knowledge of each child's personal needs.
- Children are given good opportunities to develop in their physical development, through the use of worthwhile activities which the children enjoy participating in.

- Staff support children's role play well. This helps them to learn, to negotiate, to talk through their imagined experiences and to learn about the environment

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunities within the daily routine for children to gain independence;
- the opportunities for children to link sounds to letters;
- the opportunities for children to develop their understanding of number through routine tasks.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Positive actions have been taken since the last inspection to strengthen the area of weakness that was highlighted; enhance the programme for language and literacy by giving children more opportunities to develop confidence as writers.

Children are given daily access to a range of writing materials within the role play area and in the writing area. These provide many opportunities for children to make marks spontaneously onto paper, with some children writing clearly formed letters.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children arrive happily and are enthusiastic to undertake all activities. They are forming good relationships with their peers and the staff team. They persist for long periods of time at a chosen activity within a group and as individuals. Children are well behaved, co-operative and friendly. Staff support children well, but miss opportunities to encourage children to select independently for example snack times.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children's spoken language is developing well, they negotiate and express their imagined feelings during role play situations. Children enjoy looking at books and actively participate in story times. Most children recognise their first names and are beginning to write these correctly. Children are provided with writing materials to practice letter formations, within a variety of situations. Staff miss opportunities within the daily routine in linking sounds to letters.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children have access to a range of activities to encourage their use of simple calculation, comparison of size, shape and positional language. Most children are able to count up to five and some are able to count up to ten, children are beginning to recognise written numerals within the everyday activities offered. Staff miss opportunities within the daily routine for the children to explore addition and subtraction.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are confident in their design and making skills and staff provide a good range of recycled materials, construction activities and malleable materials within each session. Children talk with confidence about events in their personal lives. The themes and activities provided enable children to gain an awareness of culture and the world in which they live. Children have opportunities to explore a range of information technology equipment within the planned programme.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children have good co-ordination skills and understanding of the space around them, they move around with confidence. Staff provide a good range of activities and resources to ensure that the children have the opportunity to use a variety of tools, large and small equipment within the pre-school day. Children are confident and capable when undertaking routine tasks, they show a good awareness of personal hygiene.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children use their imagination in a variety of planned role play activities, with staff supporting children's ideas to enable them to act out a variety of scenarios. Children are given opportunities to respond in a variety of ways to what they see, hear touch and taste. Children enjoy singing and reciting simple songs and rhymes with enthusiasm and interest. Opportunities are given for children to move to the rhythm of music through dance and movement sessions.	

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

- ensure that children are given further opportunities within the daily routine to develop their independence and extend their awareness of number values and quantity;
- develop children's awareness of letters by linking sounds to letters.

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.