



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 134307

DfES Number: 519626

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 18/03/2004
Inspector Name Sheila Collins

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Pavilion Pre-School Playgroup
Setting Address New Village Hall, Baronhurst Drive
Chalgrove
Oxford
Oxfordshire
OX44 7TE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Management Committee Pavilion
Pre-School 1027769

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Management Committee Pavilion Pre-School
Address 9 Baronshurst Drive
Chalgrove
Oxford
Oxfordshire
OX44 7TE

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

Pavilion Pre-school Playgroup opened in 1984. It meets in the village hall in Chalgrove, which is a village to the north of Wallingford. The playgroup has the use of the main hall, the kitchen, toilet facilities and the entrance foyer. There is also a fenced outside area, immediately outside the hall doors, for use of the playgroup. Children attending the group come from the village and the surrounding area. The playgroup offers sessional care for children on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, during the school term. Sessions run from 9:00 to 12:00 each morning with the exception of Thursdays which run to 11:30, because of other hall users.

The playgroup is registered to care for 24 children aged between 2 years and 5 years. Currently there are 26 children attending. Of these, there are 16 three - year olds and 1 four -year old in receipt of nursery education funding. The nursery supports children with special educational needs.

The playgroup is run by a committee, who employ a staff team of seven. This includes a qualified gym instructor who with other staff, works part time. Of the total staff working at the present time, only the supervisor holds a relevant qualification equivalent to NVQ3. Another staff member is also qualified but has started maternity leave. The nursery is supported by development workers from the Early Years Partnership and has close liaison with the nursery attached to the Chalgrove Primary School.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Pavilion Preschool Playgroup nursery education provision is acceptable and of good quality. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. Staff have appropriate expectations of children in their personal, social and emotional development. Children are making generally good progress in the areas of communication, language and literacy, and creative development and very good progress in mathematics, knowledge and understanding of the world and physical development. The teaching is generally good, although not all staff have a secure knowledge of the stepping stones to the early learning goals. There is an effective curriculum in place with a wide range of planned activities to interest the children. Planning however does not identify how the needs of more able and less able children will be met. There are good resources for all areas of learning but there are limited opportunities for older children to select resources for themselves, especially when undertaking creative projects.

Relationships between staff and children are good. As a result the children are confident and generally behave well. Staff know the individual needs of all children and assess their learning and development regularly, using objective observations. Parents are informed both formally and informally about their child's achievements and progress, but have limited opportunities to contribute to the written records kept on their child.

Leadership and management is good in the playgroup, with the supervisor and committee working together to extend the good practice. The playgroup has a good partnership with parents and they are made welcome. The written information about the playgroup is comprehensive and parents are kept well informed about the running of the group and events. Parents are able to involve themselves in their child's learning to some extent and the preschool is to explore ways to extend this.

What is being done well?

- Relationships within the preschool between staff and children are good.
- Staff have appropriate expectations of children's behaviour and use praise and encouragement of children to build on their self confidence and self esteem.
- An effective curriculum is in place with a wide range of planned activities which interest the children.
- Good use is made of the new outside play area to extend the children's learning environment.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning and to contribute to their assessment records
- the opportunities for more able children to select resources for themselves
- the planning to show how the needs of more and less able children will be met
- the training opportunities for staff to ensure that all staff become secure in their knowledge of the stepping stones to the early learning goals and of the way children learn.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Very good progress has been made since the last nursery education inspection. Planning is now linked to a format based on the early learning goals and assessments made on children are carried out using the Oxfordshire Profile. A range of items has been purchased and introduced to give the children extended opportunities for creative development. The completion of a secure outdoor area has given the children more opportunities to explore the environment for themselves, both indoors and out.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Staff have clear expectations of acceptable behaviour, so children's behaviour is generally good. Children have positive attitudes to learning and each other and are keen to be involved in activities. They are learning to cooperate, to share, to take turns and support each other. Staff praise, encourage and support children, which helps to build their self confidence and self esteem.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are becoming confident speakers and are learning to listen well to each other and adults. They listen to and respond to stories with enjoyment. They are given opportunities for practicing pre -reading and independent writing skills on a daily basis, although choices at the mark making table are limited. Opportunities are also limited for children to practice linking sounds to letters and to name the letters of the alphabet.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are learning to use numbers in a range of practical activities and have an understanding of addition and subtraction. They are given opportunities to practise their counting skills. They are learning to use comparative language such as big and little, full and empty, less than, more than and to use language appropriate to quantity, shape, space and size. They have an understanding of basic recording skills such as height charts.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children take part in a wide range of activities, which enable them to learn through first hand experiences. They are learning about their world, their environment and the sequence of events in their lives. They have an understanding of their own culture and are learning about others. They have daily access to programmable toys and learn about information technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Through planned activities and everyday routines children are developing good hand and eye co ordination, spatial awareness and fine and gross motor skills. They move confidently around the preschool environment and enjoy a wide range of activities both in and out of doors. The children are beginning to understand good hygiene practices and the changes which happen to their bodies when they are active .

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children express their ideas and feelings through a range of activities. They have opportunities to sing familiar rhymes and make their own music. Most children know their basic colours and have opportunities to use and explore different textures, different media and natural materials in their art and play activities. Opportunities are missed for older children to select own materials, resources and tools when taking part in craft activities.	

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

- extend the opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning and to contribute to their assessment records
- extend the opportunities for more able children to select resources for themselves
- improve the planning to show how the needs of more and less able children will be met
- review the training of staff to ensure that all staff become secure in their knowledge of the stepping stones to the early learning goals and of the way children learn.

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.