



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 132379

DfES Number: 522646

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	06/02/2004
Inspector Name	Pauline Nazarkardeh

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Smarty Pants Nursery
Setting Address	1 Plashet Road Plaistow London E13 0PZ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Ms Jennifer Lewis & Ms Sylvia Lewis
Address	1 Plashet Road Plaistow London E13 0PZ

## 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

Smarty Pants nursery opened in 1995. The nursery is situated in a converted premises in a busy semi residential street close to local primary schools and amenities. Areas used are the large play hall, toddler room, baby room, kitchen, children's bathroom/ toilets, office and outdoor play area.

The nursery operates between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00 Monday to Friday, all year round.

There are currently 35 children from six months to four years on roll. This includes ten funded three-year-olds and two funded four-year-olds. The setting currently supports children with special needs.

Nine full time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. One member of staff is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP)

### How good is the Day Care?

Smarty Pants Nursery provides a good standard of care. The staff know and understand the children they care for and ensure children's individual needs are met. The premises are warm and welcoming and provide space for children to play. There are a wide range of toys, resources and equipment available and accessible to children.

The staff have an understanding of how to provide a safe environment for children. There are systems in place to ensure the safe arrival and departure of the children. Generally the premises are in need of decoration but the nursery is soon to undergo a major refurbishment and extension of the premises.

The range and quality of activities offered is good. The staff show a good knowledge of individual children's interests and stages of development. They provide interesting

opportunities for children to develop and learn. Children's independence and respect for each other is encouraged. Staff's interaction and communication with children is good.

Parents are provided with written information about the nursery in the form of policies and procedures and an information area for parents in the nursery is being developed. Staff spend time exchanging information with parents about their children each day.

Documentation is well organised with established systems in place to record and hold children's written records. The system to keep records of staff clearances is not effective and the policy for child protection does not identify action to be taken should an allegation be made against a member of staff.

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

At the last inspection four actions were identified in relation to documentation and record keeping, all have been effectively addressed.

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

- Staff are warm and responsive to the children, they follow children's lead, they are interested in what they say and do.
- Children are confident to voice their opinions and staff take the time to listen and ask appropriate open ended questions.
- A stimulating range of activities are offered, children make choices from these and develop their own ideas.
- The diversity of the community's race, gender and ability are positively reflected by posters, books, resources and in children's play.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the system to keep records of staff clearances
- the policy for child protection needs to identify action to be taken should an allegation be made against a member of staff.

#### **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
1	update procedures for checking that staff are suitably cleared to work with children
13	ensure that the child protection procedure for the nursery complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures and identifies what action will be taken should an allegation be made against a member of staff.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Smarty Pants Nursery provides a friendly, welcoming environment where children learn through a range of well-planned and stimulating activities. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff engage in children's play and conversations and the children are happy and co-operative. Staff have a good understanding of the early learning goals and use this knowledge to plan an effective curriculum. Children's development is assessed on a regular basis, however there is not always supporting evidence of their achievements. Staff use a variety of teaching methods to promote children's curiosity and learning. There are opportunities for children to initiate their play and to be taught individually or in small groups.

The leadership and management of the nursery is very good. The co-owners have a clear vision for the development of the nursery and they promote staff training and professional development. They support staff and ensure consistency of good practice throughout the team. Staff are committed to furthering their professional development and continue to evaluate their working practices.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents have opportunities to exchange information about their children's progress with staff. They are encouraged to be involved in their children's learning and are informed of topics and activities. Many activities are planned to allow parents to spend time at the nursery with their children.

### What is being done well?

- Children speak clearly and fluently and staff engage well in their play and conversations.
- Staff's clear understanding of the early learning goals leads to well planned activities which encourage and sustain children's interest.
- Children's behaviour is very good they listen well and contribute to discussions with confidence.
- The staff's knowledge of children's abilities is good and they are able to plan activities which are suitably challenging for children

### What needs to be improved?

- the free writing area to show examples of children's writing on display
- children's assessment and developmental records, to show evidence of when

the area of development was achieved.

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

The nursery has made very good progress since the last inspection. Children can now access suitable resources and equipment independently. Planning identifies learning objectives particularly for older children. A member of staff takes responsibility for special educational needs and has undertaken training to ensure that assessment material is used to plan for individual children.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. The children are well behaved, confident individuals. They take turns and share fairly showing concern for others. Staff are enthusiastic and welcoming and this enables all children to have the confidence to try new activities. They value the children and their ideas, and listen attentively, responding well to their suggestions.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

The programme for communication language and literacy is generally good. The children are confident communicators, and discuss their ideas freely. Children enjoy listening to stories, they retell familiar sections and use books independently. Children are developing their written skills well, older children can write their own names. Children's interest in writing is encouraged through the use of a writing area however there are too few examples of children's writing on display.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in mathematical development. They are learning to count through a range of practical activities. Number songs, stories and rhymes are used to support and extend their knowledge. They use mathematical language to appropriately describe shape and size when building models, they are also learning to add and subtract during every day activities. They are learning to recognise written numbers, there are many visual examples displayed in the nursery.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in this area of learning. They talk about themselves and remember past events. They learn about people living in the community, by having visitors come in and through fund raising events. Children have opportunities to build with a range of construction equipment. There are many opportunities for children to learn about every day technology such as with computers, tape recorders and cooking activities.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress within the programme for physical development. They use a range of equipment, both in and outdoors, which promotes and develops skills such as; throwing, catching, balancing and climbing. They are confident movers and demonstrate a good understanding of spatial awareness. They are taught the importance of good hygiene through a range of topic work activities. Children use tools and malleable materials with increasing control.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
<p>Children make very good progress within the programme for creative development. They express their ideas freely through a range of activities, including; movement to music, painting, a variety of craft activities and singing. They are confident and imaginative in their use of role play, staff's active involvement supports their development well in this area.</p>	
<p><b>Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.</b></p>	



## 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:*

- Points for Consideration
- review the practice for displaying children's own work especially in relation to their writing
- ensure that dated observations are available to support staff's assessment of children'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.*

## **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.*