



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 260888

DfES Number: 510433

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	04/12/2003
Inspector Name	Carly Louise Thrower

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Southfields Community Playgroup
Setting Address	Southfields Community Centre Stanground Peterborough Cambridgeshire PE2 8RY

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Southfields Community Playgroup
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Southfields Community Playgroup
Address	Southfields Community Centre Stanground Peterborough Cambridgeshire PE2 8RY

## 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

Southfields Community playgroup opened in 1969. It operates from a large hall in the Southfields community centre in Stanground, Peterborough.

There are currently 17 children on roll. This includes 14 funded 3 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently does not support any children with special needs or those who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09.00am to 11.30am each weekday morning.

Four part-time/full-time staff work with the children. The supervisor has a level 3 qualification. One staff member is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

The setting receives support from an Early Years pedagogical worker and a childcare advisor from the local EYDCP.

### How good is the Day Care?

Southfields Community Playgroup is providing satisfactory care for children. Staff make good use of available play space which allows children to feel secure and confident in their environment and are provided with a balance of activities which allow them to make progress in all areas of their development. However, due to staff changes there is at present only one suitably qualified member of staff. All documentation is well maintained.

Children demonstrate positive relationships with all staff and enjoy their play. Behaviour is good and staff give clear explanations to help children learn right from wrong. However, the premises are not always kept at an adequate temperature for children to play comfortably or in a satisfactory state of cleanliness when mud is carried in from outside. Drinking water is available for children throughout the whole session, however, snacks provided are not always healthy and nutritious. Children

are given individual attention and treated with equal concern.

A good range of toys and play equipment is provided which maintains children's interest and supports their learning. This includes toys which reflect equal opportunity principles. Children are able to self select resources and play independently.

Positive, friendly informal relationships exist with all parent's. Parents are kept informed of their child's day and developmental progress and express their satisfaction at the care being offered.

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

At the transitional inspection staff were asked to keep staff records readily available on the premises, implement a medication policy and medication record book and identify hazards in the outdoor play area.

A medication policy and record book have now been put in to place and staff ensure that their records are kept readily available on the premises in the event of an emergency. A risk assessment has been carried out on the outdoor area and all hazards identified. The underneath of the storage shed has now been made safe from children. Daily risk assessments are carried out before the beginning of each session to minimise risk to children.

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

- Children are provided with a balance of activities which allow children to make progress in all areas of their development. Children enjoy their play.
- Children are provided with a range of interesting toys and play equipment. They are able to choose freely between activities and play independently.
- Staff provide good support for those children who are experiencing behaviour difficulties through a home link book and give clear explanations to help children learn right from wrong.

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

- provision of healthy and nutritious snacks
- adequate temperature of premises at all times
- 50% of staff qualified
- cleanliness of premises regarding mud from outside.
- safety of children using indoor climbing frame.

#### **Outcome of the inspection**

Satisfactory

## 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
2	Ensure that 50% of staff are suitably qualified.
4	Ensure that the premises are kept at an adequate temperature at all times.
4	Ensure that floors and children's play equipment are kept clean at all times with regard to mud from outside.
6	Make sure children are safe at all times when using the indoor climbing frame.
8	Provide children with a variety of healthy and nutritious snacks.

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

### **How effective is the nursery education?**

The provision for nursery education at Southfields Community Playgroup is good. It enables children to make very good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world and generally good progress in all other areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff plan and provide a range of activities which children participate in with enthusiasm. They appropriately question children and allow them to learn from each other. However, planning does not always show a clear learning intention, vocabulary to be used or evaluation of activities in order to influence future planning. Staff observe and make records of children's learning in all six areas to enable them to move children on to the next step.

The leadership and management of the playgroup is generally good. The setting is committed to the improvement of care and education for all children. Planning meetings attended by all staff allow them to be fully involved in planning for the setting. However, due to inconsistencies in the planning the effectiveness of the leadership and management is limited.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Parents are well informed of the playgroups routines through clear and concise policies and procedures. Information is well displayed and this includes planning of activities. Parents are encouraged to be part of their child's pre-school life through regular rota duty and are kept updated of their child's progress through discussions with their child's key worker and viewing of the record of achievements on a regular basis.

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

- Children have developed good relationships with adults and others and are learning to co-operate and share resources.
- Children are developing good language skills.
- Knowledge and understanding of the world. Children's enthusiasm to explore and investigate objects in their environment.
- Information provided for parents.

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

- organisation of large group time at the end of the session
- opportunities for children to recognise letters and link sounds to letters
- opportunities for children to engage in simple calculation
- promotion of health and bodily awareness

- set up of role play situations
- planning to show clear learning intentions, vocabulary to be used and evaluation of activities.

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

Southfields Community Playgroup has made generally good progress since the last inspection. The previous key issues were to develop short term planning to include clear learning intentions, consider the seating arrangements for large group story sessions so that children can have a better view of the book, make the book corner more comfortable and attractive and extend painting activities to enable children to explore and make choices with resources.

Staff now provide a book corner with comfortable seating and books which are attractively displayed. All children sit on a mat for group story time with the adult on low level seating and children are provided with a range of painting activities to enable them to explore colour, texture and mixing etc using a variety of resources such as brushes, sponges and marbles. However, short term planning still does not include clear learning intentions for the children.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children have developed good relationships with adults and others. They co-operate and share resources, are confident and work well independently. They are beginning to understand right from wrong and show concern for others when they are upset or hurt. However, large group time at the end of the session is not organised well to meet individual children's needs.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children's language skills are developing well. They are confident to interact in conversation with adults and others. Children listen to stories with anticipation and handle books with respect. Children are beginning to recognise some letters of the alphabet and link sounds to letters, however opportunities are missed to develop this skill during routine and play activities.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children show that they understand size and shape through the activities provided such as making different length play dough snakes. They talk about numbers such as their age and use mathematical language during their play. Children are confident to count from 1-10 and beyond. Number songs are used well to practice counting. However, there are missed opportunities for children to learn about simple calculation such as one more than, one less than in practical everyday situations.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children explore and investigate objects and materials in their environment with enthusiasm. An outing, for example to the library helps to stimulate children's interest in the local area. Children are beginning to have a good sense of time and place. They are confident to talk about members of their family such as older siblings and describe where they live. Children enjoy operating simple ICT equipment such as the tape recorder and cash register.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are confident and have good control when using a range of large equipment such as the climbing frame. Children use a variety of small tools including rolling pins, beads etc with increasing control and purpose. However, health and bodily awareness is not always adequately promoted within the setting such as hand washing before snack and adequate clothing for outside play.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children enjoy exploring shape, colour and texture through a variety of practical activities. They enjoy listening to music independently on the tape recorder and singing familiar songs at group time. Children are provided with role play situations, however, developing their imaginations in these situations is limited due to the role play being changed on a daily basis,not always developing the children's imagination and lack of adult support when required.	

**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**

- Develop planning to show clear learning intentions, vocabulary to be used and evaluation of activities in order to influence future planning.
- Ensure that large group time is effective in meeting the needs of all children.
- Improve the provision for physical development to ensure that health and bodily awareness is adequately promoted within the setting.

*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.*