



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 309826

DfES Number: 544187

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/03/2005
Inspector Name Susan, Helen Spencer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Happy Days Nursery
Setting Address Carr Head Lane
Poulton-Le-Fylde
Lancashire
FY6 8JB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Happy Days Lancashire Ltd 4704467

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Happy Days Lancashire Ltd
Address 20 Beech Drive
Poulton-le-Fylde
Lancashire
FY6 8EF

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

Happy Days Nursery has been registered since November 1999 and operates from a building in the grounds of Blackpool and Fylde College close to main road networks through Poulton-le-Fylde. It is registered to provide full day care. It offers full and part time care for no more than 135 children under 8 year; of these, not more than 53 may be under 3 years, and of these, not more than 21 may be under 2 years at any one time. The facility does not offer overnight care. It is open throughout the year from 07:45 till 18:00, Monday to Friday.

The single storey detached nursery building is separated into five units and the children are grouped according to age. There is a first floor extension which is used by the pre-school children. Each unit is fully self contained. Toilet facilities are easily accessible. There is an enclosed outdoor area including both hard play and grass.

The nursery employs 31 members of staff all of who are either qualified or are relevantly trained in childcare. Five members of staff are undertaking further training in childcare.

The Nursery is also a member of the National Day Nursery Association and has recently been inspected for the Quality Counts accreditation scheme.

The nursery accepts funding for three and four year olds and receives advice and guidance from the Teacher Support Team.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Happy Days Nursery provides high-quality nursery education which enables children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning. Personal, social and emotional development is given high priority and is a strength of the nursery.

Teaching is very good. Staff are confident, manage the children very well and have a close relationship with them. Staff give individual children an appropriate level of support and are most kind and caring towards them. They are good role models for the children to follow. Children are well-behaved and are developing independence skills. They encourage all children to participate in the activities. Staff skilfully develop children's language by maintaining a dialogue with them and by asking questions which encourage them to think and talk about what they are doing. Children are grouped and challenged appropriately. They are developing their communication and writing skills very well. Whilst they are given a wide range of activities to promote their mathematical understanding, there are some lost opportunities to develop their awareness of addition and subtraction, as they participate in daily routines. The nursery benefits from a secure, comfortable and outstandingly well-resourced facility. Staff assess children's learning against the Stepping Stones and Early Learning Goals and use this information to plan what they are to do next.

The leadership and management at the nursery is very good. The owners and committed manager, together with a capable staff team, have a collaborative approach to all aspects of their work and ensure that high standards are maintained for the children.

Partnership with parents is very good. Good relationships are formed as they are encouraged to participate in their children's learning. Staff invite parents to meetings, and records and reports are shared with them.

What is being done well?

- All children's learning needs are met in a happy, secure and caring environment. The nursery benefits from both strong management and leadership and they are very committed to the children and staff.
- The quality of teaching is very good, as staff are confident in their understanding of the Early Learning Goals.
- Staff provide a wonderful range of experiences to introduce children to Early Years Education and are to be commended for the provision they make for the children.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is a strength of the nursery. They show care and consideration to each other and they are

well-behaved. A happy family atmosphere has been created by staff. Children are developing a clear understanding of other cultures and beliefs.

- The programme for knowledge and understanding of the world is outstanding and a stimulating programme is thoroughly enjoyed, as children develop an awareness of the world in which they live.
- Provision for communication, language and literacy is very good. Children talk confidently in a variety of situations and their reading and writing skills are also well developed.
- A very close partnership has been formed with the parents and carers and this has a significant impact on the children's progress.

What needs to be improved?

- children's understanding of early addition and subtraction in practical activities and situations.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Very good progress has been made since the last inspection in addressing the points for consideration. Staff are now providing opportunities for children to develop an understanding of early addition and subtraction, as they enjoy and participate in a wide range of counting songs and rhymes, and as they listen to well-read stories, which also develops their awareness. However, there are still some minor lost opportunities in daily routines and in practical everyday situations to develop ideas and understanding of early addition and subtraction.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are beginning to form friendships and a caring family atmosphere prevails. They very much enjoy coming to nursery and are interested and motivated to learn. Children's concentration skills are well developed, as for example they complete 'Egyptian' colouring pictures. Children are encouraged to listen and sit quietly as they enjoy story-time. They are confident and are able to select their own activities and resources and the environment is well organised to enable them to make choices.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are given many good opportunities to develop early writing skills, as they make marks and draw detailed pictures of the staff. Some children are beginning to write their names and familiar words. Children recognise their names and some link sounds to letters and words. They use books appropriately and thoroughly enjoy well-read stories. Children's language and communication skills are well-developed. They happily engage in meaningful imaginative and stimulating role-play situations.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are encouraged to count and recognise numbers at each session. Some children can count up to ten. All children take part in a wide range of counting songs, but there are some lost opportunities in promoting an understanding of addition and subtraction in daily routines. Children participate and sing 'When Goldilocks went to the House of the Bears' enabling them to develop an understanding of number, size and position. They confidently recognise shape as they make an Egyptian pattern.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children share their news and talk about their families and homes and where they live. They learn about Egyptian culture and talk about pyramids and make models of them. Staff skilfully encourage children to develop very well their confidence and understanding in the use of a computer and some children use a mouse with skill. Children are taken for walks into the garden and they observe the plants as they grow and look for the creatures that live there, and a child found a worm.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

All children show increasing control and co-ordination over their bodies and an awareness of space as they move around their environment. They participate in vigorous play during planned activities, as they enjoy egg and spoon races and the 'Hokey Cokey' action dance. Children are developing skills such as balancing and climbing very well. They are encouraged to stay healthy and a topic about food promoted further understanding. Children's skills with one-handed tools are well developed.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have a wide range of opportunities to explore colour, shape, texture and form using all their senses. Children use a range of materials and create a landscape for the dinosaurs and make a mask. They thoroughly enjoy the 'Egyptian Topic' and carefully and skilfully colour pictures and make a pyramid from cardboard. Children dress up in costumes for 'Egyptian Day' and some dress as Mummies and Pharoahs. Sand play is enjoyed. They learn to print and make a pattern on material for a sari.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

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:

- There are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improve the following:
- continue to ensure children have opportunities to develop ideas and understanding of early addition and subtraction in practical activities and everyday situations.

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.