



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305443

DfES Number: 512409

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	23/06/2003
Inspector Name	David Corcoran

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Wilmslow Methodist Pre-School
Setting Address	The Methodist Church King's Close, Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AJ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	. Wilmslow Meth. Pre-Sch Committ
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## 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

Wilmslow Methodist pre-school has been in operation since 1966 and it is situated on the corner of Kings Close and Water Lane in Wilmslow town centre. The supervisor is a qualified teacher and she has completed the pre school in play group practice diploma. Eleven members of staff are employed to work at the group and more than 80% of staff have a teaching or level III qualification in childcare, plus many years experience working with children. The pre-school is registered for 48 children and they admit children from two and a half to five years. Operating hours are from 9-30am until 12-00pm during term time only. The pre-school operate an early bird system for children aged from three where they can attend from 9-00am and participate in further pre-school learning activities. The children have access to four rooms. During the first part of the morning, half the children will play within the hall on the large play equipment and in the music room, where they can play with a variety of play materials to stimulate learning. While the other group of children have access to the pre-school room and the craft and messy area. In the second half of the morning the children swap round so that every child has the opportunity to experience the play experiences that are on offer. The pre-school operate a key worker system and the staff move round with the children into the different rooms. The children do not have access to an outside play area, however they are able to use large play equipment and complete gym activities in the hall. Wilmslow pre-school are members of the Pre School Learning Alliance and they are validated to receive education funding. There are currently three children with special needs in attendance, and two children for whom English is an additional language.

The group operates a no smoking policy.

### How good is the Day Care?

Wilmslow Methodist Pre School provides good quality care for children aged from two to five years.

Staff deployment is very well organised to ensure children have adequate support at all times. Additional support is given according to individual needs. Staff give high

priority to ensuring children are safe both inside the premises and on outings. They effectively promote an awareness of health and safety amongst the children through play activities and discussion.

Consistency of care is supported by an effective operational plan, a comprehensive staff induction system, supervision, staff planning meetings and training opportunities.

The quality of care for children is very good. Activities are planned to promote learning and progress in all areas of development. Children are given opportunities to be creative and imaginative. Their understanding of language, maths, science and the natural world is encouraged through exciting topics and themes. Children are given choices and are encouraged to be confident and independent - activities develop their curiosity, promote interest and an eagerness to explore and find things out for themselves. They are encouraged to play and learn together, and show care and consideration for others. A good stock of play resources help them understand the world they live in.

There are very good relationships with parents, who are kept informed of their child's progress, and encouraged to develop close links with the Pre School in a partnership of care, which provides stability, consistency and continuity of care for children. Documentation and recording procedures are generally good, although some amendments are needed.

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

All requirements from the previous inspection have been addressed satisfactorily - there is now a system for recording visitors to the provision, and a recording procedure for complaints is in place.

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

- There is an broad range of activities which are well planned, supported by a good stock of play resources.
- Children are encouraged to develop confidence, independence and self-esteem; respect for others is promoted through activities and group discussion.
- There is a strong emphasis on equality of opportunity, and additional support for children who have special needs.
- Effective planning, organisation of staff and good use of the space available ensure that all learning objectives are successfully achieved. Comprehensive policies and procedures are understood by all staff and put into practice to ensure that children are safe, healthy and well cared for; observation, assessment and planning for the future help children achieve their potential.
- Relationships with parents are very good. Parents views are represented on the management committee and they are actively encouraged to liaise with the staff team in a very close partnership of care.

**What needs to be improved?**

- the documentation:
- to include procedures regarding uncollected children;
- recording procedures to have regard for confidentiality;
- the Child Protection Statement to include Social Services contact details;
- the Behaviour Management and Child Protection statements to be re-evaluated and updated appropriately;
- the arrangements for handwashing during messy activities needs to be reconsidered.

**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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
14	Devise written procedures for uncollected children	01/09/2003

**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
7	ensure that appropriate facilities are in place for children's personal hygiene (Standard 7)
14	ensure that health recording procedures have regard for confidentiality (Standards 7 and 14)
14	reappraise and update existing written guidance regarding Behaviour Management; include procedures for managing bullying (Standards 11 and 14)
14	reappraise and update existing written guidance regarding Child Protection; include Social Services contact details (Standards 13 and 14)

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Wilmslow Methodist Pre-School offers good quality provision which helps children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is very good. Staff have a good up-to-date knowledge of the children and use this to provide an environment which offers the children appropriate challenges. Staff have a clear knowledge of the foundation stage and are skilled in offering stimulating planned and spontaneous opportunities for children to develop in all of the early learning goals. Staff have a positive approach to behaviour management and are sensitive to children's needs. Staff support children in their chosen activities and further extend their learning by asking open-ended questions and posing simple problems. Activities are well managed, although some group times do not sustain all the children's interest.

Staff support children who have English as an additional language, enabling them to fully take part in all activities and make good progress towards the early learning goals. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure that children with special educational needs are able to access the curriculum, that appropriate challenges are set and their individual needs are catered for.

Leadership and management are very good. Staff work well together as a team and are skilled in monitoring, evaluating and improving the pre-school provision. Regular meetings, staff appraisals and accessing relevant training contributes to the continued development of the provision.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good and contributes to the childrens' progress towards the early learning goals. Parents are respected and valued. Their opinions are sought and acted upon. Parents are actively involved within the pre-school and information regarding the setting and their child is shared openly.

### What is being done well?

- Children are confident and enthusiastic in accessing and exploring the wide range of resources and activities on offer.
- Children have very good communication skills and use an extensive vocabulary.
- Staff have a clear knowledge of the early learning goals and of the individual children, which leads to well planned topics and activities. These engage and sustain children's interests and efforts.
- Staff are skilled in taking spontaneous opportunities to extend children's learning and encourage problem solving.

<b>What needs to be improved?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Children's imagination and creativity during art and design activities.</li><li>● Children's opportunities to participate more actively during some group activities and story times.</li></ul>



<b>What has improved since the last inspection?</b>
<p>Wilmslow Methodist Pre-School has made very good progress towards meeting the key issues raised at the last inspection. Staff have developed their understanding of pattern making, order and sequencing skills and children are given plenty of opportunities throughout the sessions to develop their skills in this area.</p> <p>Staff now share records of children's development with parents three times and year. These include a section for information and feedback from parents.</p>

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Childrens' progress in personal, social and emotional development is very good. Children have strong relationships with peers and adults within the setting and proudly share their work and achievements. Staff and children show respect and concern for each other and the children are aware of and adhere to the boundaries within the pre-school. The children explore the variety of activities on offer with enthusiasm and confidence.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Childrens' progress in communication, language and literacy is very good. They use and understand an extensive vocabulary. Children are able to recognise and sound letters in their names and other letters of the alphabet. They are able to write their names and use the various opportunities provided for "writing" with a purpose. Children spend time exploring books on their own, with friends, adults and in groups. Children use books for stories and for reference.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Childrens' progress in mathematical development is very good. Children are becoming skilled in using mathematical ideas to solve practical problems and are encouraged to do so throughout the session. Children have a good understanding and knowledge of shape, position, size and quantity. They can group objects and are able to recognise, recreate and initiate pattern making. Children can count objects beyond 10 and can recognise some numerals.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Childrens' progress in knowledge and understanding of the world is very good. Children investigate the various materials on offer to them. They learn about the environment and local community during and following visits from the pre-school and from visitors to the setting. They take an interest in the many first hand experiences of living things offered to them. Children are becoming skilled in using the computer and access it independently throughout the play session.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Childrens' progress in physical development is very good. Children confidently access the wide variety of gross motor equipment available to them. They are able to run, balance, swing, pedal bikes, jump, climb up, down, over, under and through. Children learn about their bodies and keeping healthy through planned topics and spontaneous activities.

<b>CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Very Good
Childrens' progress in creative development is very good. They explore sounds and music and relate them to actions and events. Children take pride in their art work and take advantage of the many opportunities to draw and create detailed pictures. Children use their imagination during role play and act out every day activities and those related to visits. Children's imagination in art and design is limited due to the lack of variety of creative materials provided at any one session.	
<b>Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.</b>	



## **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:
- - organisation of creative resources so that a wider variety is available on a daily basis.
- - organisation of some group times in order to sustain children's interest and enable greater participation.

*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.*