



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY102587

DfES Number: 546451

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	10/03/2005
Inspector Name	Anne Barnsley

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Great Wood Farm Early Years Centre
Setting Address	Greatwood Farm, Ponton Road Boothby Pagnell Grantham Lincolnshire NG33 4DH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Kathryn Mary Spence & Julie Margaret Saxty
Address	Greatwood Farm, Ponton Road Boothby Pagnell Grantham Lincolnshire NG33 4DH

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

Greatwood Farm Early Years Centre is privately owned and opened in 2002. It operates from a spacious porta cabin in a rural setting on the outskirts of the village. There is a large pre-school room with an adjoining quiet room and separate rooms for the toddlers, babies and out of school club. The early years centre serves the surrounding rural area and provides ample car parking. There is a large garden for outdoor play and farmland and woodland walks for nature studies and organised activities.

The centre is registered to provide care for twenty four children between the ages of two and a half and eight years. There are currently sixty three children on roll of whom twenty two are receiving nursery education funding. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are no children who have special needs and none who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens daily throughout the year. Sessions are from 08:00 until 18.00.

The centre have eleven members of staff, nine of whom hold child care qualifications and two of whom are currently working towards qualifications..

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Children are making very good progress in all areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a sound knowledge of the foundation stage and use this well to question children effectively and make good use of impromptu situations to extend their learning. Staff interact very well with children who are well behaved, confident and helpful. The strategies that staff use to manage children's behaviour are positive and enable children to understand right from wrong and effectively praise and reward children for the efforts they make. Children have high self esteem, make independent choices and can plan and organise. The system for assessing children's progress is effective although the evaluations of focus activities do not fully demonstrate if the learning objective has been reached and the next targets. There is a good balance between adult and child led activities and all aspects of the stepping stones are covered evenly in planning and consolidated through general play.

Leadership and management is very good. The enthusiastic team is well led and works together effectively using each others strengths. Staff participate in an appraisal scheme and regularly attend staff and team meetings. Staff have a proactive attitude towards training and all have completed courses or are working towards qualifications. They are committed to improving their provision and developments are ongoing. The most recent development is an extension to the premises which enables children to have an indoor physical room during wet weather or to use it as a music room or quiet room for activities for older children.

Partnership with parents is very good. Useful information from the prospectus and notice boards keeps them well informed about the provision. Children's progress and next steps are shared with parents regularly to enable parents to contribute to their child's learning.

What is being done well?

- Children are confident and eager learners. They enjoy warm and close relationships with staff who help them feel safe and secure.
- The staff work well as a team and they plan and deliver a full curriculum that caters for the needs for all children.
- Staff are well organised and make effective use of time and resources. As a result children are learning to be organised and are confident and capable when planning and organising their own ideas.
- Children have excellent opportunities to learn about nature and the environment.
- Partnership with parents is very good and staff have many systems in place

for keeping parents well informed about their child's progress.

What needs to be improved?

- evaluations of focus activities with specific learning objectives.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are very good communicators and are confident to initiate conversations between themselves and adults. They are able to work in groups and also independently using resources they have selected. Children respond well to staff and behaviour is very good. Children help tidy away their toys, plates and cups. They are familiar with the routine of the day and can plan ahead as they know what is expected of them.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children use language well to communicate both real and imaginary experiences. They are also developing a good awareness of linking sounds and letters. Children are able to sit quietly and listen to one speaker and contribute their own thinking to conversations when appropriate. Children use books well and select them independently as a source of pleasure. Children are progressing well with developing their writing skills and most can write their own name and form letters correctly.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children can count reliably up to 10 and most children can count well beyond. They use counting in many every day situations and can recognise numerals, match, sort and compare. They are making good progress with understanding the basic concepts of addition and subtraction and can identify less and more than. Children solve simple mathematical problems by calculation, weighing and measuring. Children apply their knowledge and consolidate their learning in general play and conversation.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are developing good computer skills and have regular use of the computer to support their learning. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about the environment and the natural world. They are very knowledgeable and are learning to grow their own vegetables, care for pigs, lambs, plants, forests and birdlife. They are making a willow tunnel and can observe the changes that take place as it grows. Children are developing an awareness of other cultures and beliefs.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children have very good physical skills and spatial awareness. They can negotiate and avoid obstacles, change direction and alter speed. Children can climb and balance well and are confident to use large apparatus. Children have daily outside play and this is varied to develop different skills. They are involved in a great deal of walking and healthy pursuits. They are capable when using small tools and can use these with precision and accuracy.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are very creative and use props such as dressing up clothes to enhance stories they have created. They have a range of practical skills which they use to good effect in creating craft work using a wide variety of materials such as bark and stone rubbings, seed pictures, fabrics and paint. They have a very good repertoire of songs which they are able to sing from memory and use in context such as singing to the lambs. Children have good exposure to different types of music.

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 were no key issues identified at this inspection although one point for consideration was identified:
- Further develop the evaluation system to demonstrate the outcome of the learning objective and the next target or steps that need to be taken to progress capable, or less capable children with that particular area of learning.

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.