



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY236403

DfES Number: 523346

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/11/2004
Inspector Name Sue Vernon

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Community Kids Playgroup
Setting Address Higher Backway
Bruton
Somerset
BA10 0DP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Community Kids Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Community Kids Playgroup
Address Higher Backway
Bruton
Somerset
BA10 0DP

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

Community Kids Playgroup is a community run group situated in Higher Backway, Bruton and can be found next door to Bruton Primary School. The group has been running for approximately 24 years and serves the predominately rural community.

The premises have been purpose built and offer a large main room, kitchen and toilet facilities including disabled facilities. There is a safe, enclosed area for outdoor play. The group also have use of the school playing field for outdoor play.

There are four staff who are early years qualified in childcare to NVQ level two or three.

The group is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 09:00 - 12:00, Tuesday and Thursday 09:00 - 11:30 and 12:30 - 15:00. Children attend for a variety of sessions. They also provide after school care term time only, Monday to Friday 15:30 -18:00. They are eligible to take funded three and four year olds.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Community Kids Playgroup provides good quality nursery education overall which enables children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning. Children are relaxed, confident and have good relationships with the well established staff team.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff have a satisfactory awareness of the early learning goals which enables them to link activity aims with the stepping stones. Short term planning and the delivery of activities does not always provide sufficient challenge all children. Observations and evaluations of learning are not clearly linked to an effective system for monitoring all children's progress. Staff build good relationships with children through their use of praise and they use open questioning to help children think about what they are learning.

Leadership and management in the group is generally good though there are weaknesses in monitoring and evaluating the provision for nursery education. Staff have been supported in their professional development with on-going training and attendance at early years partnership sessions.

The partnership with parents is generally good. Parents receive information about the group and how activities link to the stepping stones. Clear information on the Foundation stage and how parents can contribute to learning is lacking which can result in some parents not understanding the learning potential of activities. Staff give verbal feedback on daily sessions and have a good relationship with parents who feel staff are friendly and supportive.

What is being done well?

- Staff build warm and friendly relationships with children. This builds children's confidence and encourages good behaviour.
- Children are confident to try new activities and are developing good levels of concentration which enables them to persist for lengthy periods.
- Children are using mathematical language in their play to solve simple problems, compare quantity and size and are able to match patterns and recognise shapes.
- Ongoing training helps staff continue to develop their teaching skills and contribute to the staff team.

What needs to be improved?

- the planning of activities to include challenge for all children and the assessment and monitoring of children's progress.

- information provided to parents regarding the Foundation Stage curriculum, the value of activities and how parents can contribute to their child's learning.
- links between the leadership and the management of the setting and the monitoring and evaluation the nursery education
- the consistency in offering opportunities for creative play such as exploring texture and different media.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Generally good progress has been made since the last inspection.

Staff have developed their early years training. The book corner has been made attractive with story time held daily and children encouraged to self-select and enjoy books at each session. Additional maths resources have been acquired and used regularly to promote shape and pattern recognition. A system of planning and children's records have been introduced to monitor children's learning, although further developing these will be a key issue for this inspection.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children separate from carers and happily join in play opportunities. Staff and children have warm relationships which help promote good behaviour and encourage children to try new experiences. Good concentration skills are developing with children able to persist at activities for extended periods of time. Children enjoy some opportunities for developing personal independence such as with tidy up time, although opportunities are lacking within the daily routine.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are developing confidence in using language to communicate with staff and each other. They can describe their feelings and experiences. They enjoy stories and songs and are using books appropriately on their own. Many recognise their printed names and enjoy finding their name cards hidden in the room. They are mark making for a purpose and understand print has meaning but they are not offered routine opportunities for linking phonetic sounds to letters.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are starting to be confident counting within activities, some up to five, ten and beyond. Regular opportunities to count within the daily routine are limited. Children are using simple mathematical language to compare size and understand quantity such as when filling sand buckets or pouring water. They are able to match patterns with bricks or sorting small world resources. They can recognise simple shapes when using the maths resources provided.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children enjoy designing and building their own models within both free play with construction kits and planned activities such as making homes with junk modelling. They understand the use of technology in toys although there are limited opportunities for exploring the benefit of the computer. Activities are planned to help children explore the natural world around them and they are able to recall their experiences through displays of work and photographs.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident climbers and enjoy threading themselves in and around the climbing unit. They show a good awareness of space. They move with confidence and control around their environment, such as when helping to tidy away toys. They are developing small muscle skills using a variety of simple tools, construction and building toys. There are limited opportunities to discuss healthy eating or changes through exercise.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children enjoy using and identifying colours in painting and water play activities. They use their imagination in role play and dressing-up. They enjoy a variety of music sessions in which they can explore and express their imagination. Whilst different textures such as sand and playdough are offered, there are limited opportunities to explore textures and different media routinely within each session.

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 effective links between observations, planning and profiles to ensure all children are challenged and their progress through all the early learning goals is monitored
- extend information to parents on the partnership in learning and how they can contribute to their child's progress.

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.