



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 251778

DfES Number: 520079

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/03/2004  
Inspector Name Hazel Meadows

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Old Felixstowe Nursery  
Setting Address Kingsfleet School  
Ferry Road  
Felixstowe  
Suffolk  
IP11 9LY

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Old Felixstowe Nursery 1063189

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Old Felixstowe Nursery  
Address Kingsfleet School  
Ferry Road  
Felixstowe  
Suffolk  
IP11 9LY

## 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

Old Felixstowe Nursery opened in 1965.

It operates from a portacabin with two rooms and kitchen and cloakroom facilities. The portacabin is situated in the grounds of Kingsfleet Primary School in Felixstowe. The nursery serves the local community.

There are currently 64 children on roll. This includes 31 funded 3 year olds and 25 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting supports children who have special needs and who have English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:05-11:45 and 12:45-15:25.

Nine part-time staff work with the children. More than half the staff have recognised early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3.

The setting receives support from an advisory teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

Old Felixstowe Nursery provides good quality care for children aged two to five years.

The nursery is warm and welcoming for children and their parents. Space is well organised to provide an environment that is conducive to children's play and learning. The group is very well equipped with good quality and plentiful resources. Toys and equipment are well presented and easily accessible to the children. Staff plan and provide a broad range of play activities to promote children's development in all areas.

Staff have a good awareness of health and safety issues which they put into practice

to ensure the wellbeing of the children. They attend regular training to enhance and update their knowledge and practice. All documentation is in place and up to date.

Staff put their inclusive policy into practice very well. All children are valued. Staff provide support and appropriate resources to ensure all children can participate fully in the group and that their particular needs are met effectively. Staff know children well as individuals and are attentive to them, promoting their confidence and self worth.

Staff work in partnership with the parents and form positive relationships with them. Parents are supportive of, and actively involved in the running of the group. They are kept well informed of general information and events at the nursery via regular newsletters and a notice board. An introductory leaflet is available to parents although it requires some amendments and additions.

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

At the previous inspection the group agreed to secure the outside play area and ensure children are protected from hazards outside. The outside area has been completely refurbished with a safety surface and has been made secure. The complaints procedure has also been amended to include the address and telephone number for Ofsted.

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

- There is an excellent and diverse range of good quality toys and resources, offering the children a stimulating, challenging and fun environment. Toys and equipment are well presented and easily accessible enabling children to make their own choices and encouraging their independence.
- Staff plan and provide an interesting, stimulating and challenging range of play activities and opportunities, to promote children's emotional, social, physical and intellectual abilities. Adults are interested in and attentive to the children. They engage positively with the children and their play, promoting their confidence and learning.
- Staff have an inclusive practice to ensure all children are valued and accepted as individuals. They know all the children well and treat each of them with equal care, concern and respect. The staff 's positive attitude and approach, and their effective use of toys and resources, promote children's appreciation and understanding of diversity and ensure that all children are able to participate at a level appropriate to their needs.
- Staff keep parents well informed of general events at the nursery by regular newsletters and a prominent notice board. Parents indicate that the staff are approachable and they have confidence in them. Parents are actively involved in the running of the group, on the committee and in providing practical support and help.

#### **An aspect of outstanding practice:**

The group provides an excellent range of good quality resources both inside and

outdoors. They use these resources effectively to promote and extend the children's play, learning and fun whilst at the nursery.

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

- the organisation of registration time
- the nursery prospectus
- parent's names on children's personal detail forms

#### **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 should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
2	give consideration to registration time to relieve congestion and to enable parents to speak to staff more easily when they arrive.
12	update prospectus to refer to the Foundation Stage and outline the Areas of Learning
14	ensure parent's names are on the children's personal details

## 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 Old Felixstowe Nursery is of high quality. It enables children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a sound knowledge and understanding of the Foundation Stage. They plan a stimulating and imaginative variety of activities, usually around weekly topics, with the planning clearly linked to the stepping stones. Observations and assessments of the children's achievements are kept and are used effectively to evaluate and plan the next steps in a child's learning.

Staff develop trusting relationships with the children and engage positively with them in their play. The excellent range of resources is used imaginatively and effectively to promote and enhance children's learning through play and first hand experiences. Staff provide a learning environment that positively reflects the diversity of the local community and the wider world. They encourage the children to try new experiences and to develop confidence, competence and independence.

The leadership and management of the group is very good. The setting is committed to improving the care and education for all children at the nursery and this is endorsed by clear, well written policies. There are regular staff and committee meetings and staff work well together as a team. There is a high level of staff training, with commitment to ongoing training and development and good practice.

Partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are actively involved with the running of the group and are very supportive. They are given a booklet about the setting and are kept well informed about events via regular newsletters and a prominent notice board. Children's progress is shared verbally with parents, however opportunities for more regular feedback/input regarding their child's learning are required plus information about the Foundation Stage curriculum.

### What is being done well?

- Children are able to learn and make discoveries through their play, self chosen activities and first hand experiences. There is a good balance of free play and adult led activities. The stimulating environment encourages children to be motivated and keen to learn.
- Children are becoming confident, sociable and independent. They separate from their main carer with assurance and are developing trusting relationships with staff.
- Children are becoming confident communicators. They initiate conversations with familiar and unfamiliar adults and their peers. They are developing good

investigative and observation skills using all their senses and they engage enthusiastically in the activities available.

- Staff plan and provide an interesting and imaginative range of activities and make good use of the excellent and plentiful range of good quality resources. Using the stepping stones, they link several activities to a theme to promote and consolidate the children's thinking, learning and understanding.

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

- parent's awareness of the Foundation Stage, Areas of Learning and stepping stones
- methods to share information with parents about their child's progress in a more planned and pro-active manner
- parent's involvement in their children's learning

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

At the last inspection the group agreed to develop the plans for the educational programme to ensure that they are clear about what children are intended to learn. The group now have activity sheets which outline the learning intentions and are used to evaluate and identify what stage the children are at. They also include group activities to support more and less able children.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident and sociable and are forming positive relationships with the staff and each other. They are interested in the activities and keen to try new experiences. They have substantial levels of concentration and persevere with self chosen tasks. They are confident to initiate role play and involve others. They are developing consideration for others eg sharing. They have an awareness and appreciation of their immediate and wider communities.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

The children are confident to approach familiar adults and to initiate and sustain turn-taking conversation. They recognise their names and some children in the nursery write their names well. There is a well equipped writing area which is well used by the children and integrated into their role play to enable them to write for a purpose. Children enjoy books and handle them with care and freely access the book area. They enjoy and participate in stories and listen attentively.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children can recognise numerals and can count to ten and some beyond. This is reinforced through number puzzles and board games and counting the number of children present. They use mathematical language such as bigger, smaller, heavier and lighter with understanding and are able to make comparisons eg child persisting with a graduating size puzzle. They recognise shapes and know the names for some of them. They are becoming aware of patterns and sequencing eg paint patterns.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children show curiosity and interest in their environment and are developing observation and investigative skills eg nature magnifiers. They use tools, such as glue sticks, dough rollers, scissors with increasing skill. They use the computers and telephones with confidence and competence. They begin to relate to a sense of time eg sand timers and the nursery routine. They are developing an awareness and appreciation of their own and other cultures through exciting topics and related activities.

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children are aware of their own needs and are developing good hygiene practice. They use both large and small play equipment with increasing competence, co-ordination and skill. The outdoor area is very well used and equipped to offer children opportunity for exercise and to increase and develop skills such as balancing, throwing and catching. Children's hand eye coordination is developing well eg threading, using pencils, scissors and they have good manipulative skills eg play dough.

### **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children are able to explore a broad range of textures, media and materials, both natural and man made. They use various techniques for colour mixing and collage work and make discoveries themselves eg children mixing paint on their hands and discovering brown. They explore and use all their senses. Children make good use of the broad range of props to support their role play. There are opportunities for children to experience and enjoy rhymes, music and musical instruments.

**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:*

- Ensure parents are aware of the Foundation Stage, Areas of Learning and stepping stones and that this is clearly reflected in information to parents.
- Establish methods to share information with parents about their child's progress in a more planned and pro-active manner, to enable them to be more involved in their children's 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.*

## **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.*