



Office for Standards  
in Education

## NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305257

DfES Number: 513041

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/01/2005  
Inspector Name Judith Heald

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Poynton Methodist Church Playgroup  
Setting Address Civic Hall, Park Lane  
Poynton  
Stockport  
Cheshire  
SK12 1RB

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Poynton Methodist Church

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Poynton Methodist Church  
Address Poynton Methodist Church, Civic Hall  
Park Lane, Poynton  
Stockport  
Cheshire  
SK12 1RB

## 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

Poynton Methodist Church Playgroup is based in the premises of the Methodist Church. The playgroup operates from three rooms within the main Church building. It is situated in the centre of Poynton village. A maximum of 30 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. The playgroup is open each weekday morning from 09:15 to 12:00 and Wednesday afternoons from 12:30 to 15:00 term time only. All children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 57 children aged from 2 to under 5 years on roll. Of these 48 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local catchment area.

The playgroup employs 6 staff. All of the staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Poynton Methodist Playgroup provides good quality education overall, which enables children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is generally good, the staff provide a warm, welcoming environment. The staff manage children's behaviour well, and have good relationships with them. They provide a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities, though sometimes they over direct focussed creative activities. The staff develop children's language and communication by talking to the children encouraging them to develop their own ideas and thinking.

Staff assess children's progress and learning against the early learning goals, though the planning and the evaluation is not sufficiently thorough enough to inform future planning. The staff have frequent opportunities for discussion and attend staff meetings.

Leadership and management are generally good. The staff communicate well and have a good awareness of their roles and responsibilities. There are good support links between the staff and the management committee. There is not yet a rigorous system in place to monitor and evaluate the children's learning, the quality of teaching and identified training needs of the staff team.

The partnership with parents and carers is generally good. Parents feel very welcome and spend time talking informally to staff about their children. Parents can be involved if they wish as there is an open door policy. Parents receive regular information of forthcoming events within a newsletter, though they are not sufficiently aware of the assessment process against the early learning goals within the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

### What is being done well?

- Staff promote good behaviour and consideration of others, their positive manner sets a very good example for the children
- Staff provide a wide range of interesting activities and experiences making effective use of resources
- The staff team communicate and work well together
- Children's language and communication skills are promoted very effectively through a wide range of activities.

### What needs to be improved?

- the planning and evaluation of focused activities.
- the monitoring, assessment and evaluation of children's learning to inform teaching and future planning
- the opportunities for children to develop their imaginative and creative skills during focused creative activities

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

At the time of the last inspection there was only one key issue identified for improvement.

That was to provide more opportunities for children to extend their writing skills by establishing a writing area with a variety of paper and implements which are consistently available.

Generally good progress has been made since the last inspection. The staff team have introduced a number of measures to improve the opportunities for children to extend their writing skills.

They have introduced writing and resources into specific play areas e.g. the doctor's surgery includes pads, paper, clip boards, pencils for children to make appointments, take messages

A table is set out at each session for children to draw, make marks, however the children do not have sufficient opportunities to choose their own materials from implements available consistently.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children feel safe, secure and have particularly good relationships with other children and staff. They confidently move around the nursery, exploring a wide range of activities with increasing confidence. Staff encourage independence and but do not sufficiently develop children's self help skills. Children behave well in response to praise, encouragement and effective staff role models. Awareness of positive images is not developed sufficiently.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children develop speaking and listening skills and are able to express their own ideas e.g. story time. They learn new vocabulary through play activities. Children link sounds to letters when they recognise their names but do not sufficiently link sounds to letters in the daily routine. Children enjoy books independently and as a group, listening attentively. The children access writing materials to enhance role play, encouraging that we write for a purpose and that print carries meaning.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are developing a concept of number through play and practical experiences; they learn to count as they join in number songs. Children use a good variety of resources to explore shapes they sort and order objects by size. They use mathematical language; they talk about big, small, full, empty as they play with sand. Children do not sufficiently problem solve using calculation during the daily routine.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children learn about other cultures and beliefs e.g. Christmas, Diwali. Children explore a good range of man made and natural materials e.g. play dough, sand. They have links to the community when people visit them e.g. lollypop lady. They do not have regular access to walk around their local community. They design and make models when they assemble construction materials e.g. stickle bricks, junk modelling. Children develop a sense of time when they remember significant events e.g. birthdays

**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children develop their fine motor skills and hand eye co-ordination e.g. painting, playing with dough, jigsaws. They develop their gross motor skills both indoors and outdoors negotiating space e.g. walking, running, crawling and dancing. They regularly have access to a large climbing frame enabling children to climb and slide. Children do not sufficiently gain an awareness of healthy eating. Children are able to move confidently when playing games and show awareness of themselves and others.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children play independently using their imagination during role-play e.g. weighing babies in the doctor's surgery. Children enjoy music and are confident to sing familiar songs. Children regularly listen and dance to music. They develop sensory awareness when using of a wide range of resources, exploring colour and texture e.g. painting, play dough. Children do not sufficiently develop their creative skills during focused creative activities.

**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 the planning of short term focused activities to ensure that the aim and learning outcomes are fully evaluated to inform teaching and future planning within the six areas of learning
- provide opportunities for children to develop their imaginative and creative skills when participating in focused creative activities
- implement effective monitoring and assessment procedures of children's learning to inform teaching and future planning.

*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.*