



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 226987

DfES Number: 515874

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	08/01/2003
Inspector Name	Yvonne Chapman

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	St Georges Nursery School
Setting Address	2 Grace House Leicester Leicestershire LE4 9EG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mr Birju Ghelani
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	
Address	

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
St Georges nursery school is located on Grace Road, in the Aylestone area of Leicester. It is open, Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 6.00pm, closing only for bank holidays and 1 week at Christmas. The nursery is registered to provide full day care for 85 children. It is registered to take a maximum of 46 children under the age of 2 years, and 9 children for out of school care. Out of school care is provided during the school holidays from 8.30am to 5.30pm, and after school from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. There are currently no children on register who have special needs, and no children with English as an additional language. The nursery operates 7 rooms. The baby unit is split into 2 classrooms, Bunnies and Kittens. Bunnies class room cares for children from 6 weeks of age to 1 year, and Kittens, from 1 year to 18 months. Ducklings classroom is for children aged 18 months to 2 years; and Puppies, for children aged 2 to 3 years. Piglets classroom cares for children aged 3 to 5 years. The out of school club is available to children aged 4 to 8 years of age. Teaching at the nursery is based on Montessori teaching methods. There are 20 staff, 10 of whom hold a qualification in Early Years. The nursery liases with a foundation stage support teacher.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Overall progress towards the early learning goals is generally good. Teaching is generally good. Staff build positive relationships with the children and have realistic expectations of their behaviour. Personal independence is encouraged and children are confident in receiving support. Staff are familiar with the early learning goals. Staff use individual assessments to inform planning. This information is not sufficiently used when planning for large group activities, and as a result not all children are meaningfully engaged. There is also limited staff support for children in developing hand eye co-ordination and fine movements when using small tools, pencils etc. Leadership and Management is generally good The proprietor of the setting makes regular visits to monitor and oversee the provision. The Officer in Charge is supportive and provides an effective role model for staff. Regular appraisals are planned and staff's progress is monitored. Appropriate training is available and attendance encouraged. Partnership with Parents is generally good Parents are positive about the progress their children make and the support they receive from staff. Parents are well informed about the provision through newsletters, parents evenings and the nursery school's prospectus. However, more information about planned learning through the early learning goals, would better enable parents to assist in their child's learning.

What is being done well?

Children's personal, social and emotional development is being promoted well. Children make good relationships with adults and peers. There is a realistic expectation of children's behaviour and they understand right from wrong. Staff build positive relationships with parents who feel they are supported and well informed about their child's progress. Opportunities in communication, language and literacy have enabled children to develop good speaking and listening skills and become confident writers. Knowledge and understanding of the world is being reinforced through regular opportunities to find out about and care for living things and explore how things change.

What needs to be improved?

The organisation of group activities to ensure that children of all abilities remain focused and meaningfully engaged. Staff use of childrens individual assessments to support children in developing hand eye co-ordination and fine movements when handling small tools and implements. Opportunities for children to freely explore and experiment with texture and colour.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children make generally good progress in this area. They are confident, behave well and relate positively to adults and peers. Children are considerate and show an awareness of others. Personal independence is encouraged. Children make choices and operate independently within the environment. The individual needs of some children are not met in large group activities	
COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children make very good progress in this area. Children are confident writers and are encouraged to write independently. They are developing good listening skills through discussions with staff and regular use of books. Children speak confidently, clearly, and engage easily in conversation with adults and peers. They learn to negotiate well and express their ideas through a range of practical activities.	
MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children make generally good progress in this area. Children are able to count to 10, and beyond. They recognize and name numerals. A good range of individual activities are used to extend children's understanding of addition and subtraction. Children are able to recognize size, and match and sort shapes appropriately. There are limited opportunities for more able children to extend their understanding of sequencing or recreating patterns.	
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children make generally good progress in this area. Children differentiate between yesterday, today and tomorrow. Opportunities to discuss days, time, changes in weather and birthday celebrations promote awareness of past and present. Children are learning to explore and investigate materials, and the environment, through projects, visits and planned activities. There are limited opportunities to use a range of communication technology or access programmable toys.	
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children's progress in physical development is very good. Children are able to move confidently and there are planned activities which encourage them to be active. Children gain an increasing understanding of how their bodies work and how to keep healthy. Music and movement, obstacle courses and climbing equipment are used to increase body awareness. Opportunities are limited for children to be supported in their hand eye co-ordination and small motor development.	
CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	

Judgement:	Generally Good
Children are making generally good progress in this area. Children are able to use their imagination and express their feelings through role play, movement and storywriting. Musical instruments are used regularly to enable children to explore different sounds and patterns. There are limited opportunities for children to explore and experiment freely with texture and colour, through sand, water and paint.	
Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately:	Y

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
Evaluate how group activities are structured to ensure all children are meaningfully engaged. Provide children with greater opportunities to freely explore and experiment with colour and texture. Continue to improve staff's assessment of individual children's learning and ensure children are supported in activities involving hand eye co-ordination and fine manipulative development.