



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 123134

DfES Number: 531749

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 14/09/2004
Inspector Name Pauline King

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Apples and Honey, The Nursery on the Common
Setting Address 1 Queensmere Road
Wimbledon
London
SW19 5QD

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Ms Judith Esther Ish-Horowicz

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

Apples and Honey, The Nursery on the Common is situated in Wimbledon, and lies midway between Southfield's underground station and Wimbledon train station. Short term parking is provided for parents when they bring and collect their children from the nursery. The nursery is held within self-contained premises at the Wimbledon and District Synagogue. Two playrooms are used and an outside play area.

The nursery is registered for 24 children aged 2 to 5 years of age, with an extension granted for one child with special needs to remain at the nursery until they are 8. There are currently 13 children from 2 years to 5 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are some children with special needs.

The nursery is open five days a week term time only. Sessions are Monday and Tuesday 09:45 to 12:30, Wednesday and Thursday 09:45 to 13:45 and Friday 9:45 to 12:45.

Children from all religions and faiths are encouraged to join the nursery, although the majority of children are Jewish. Children engage in Jewish celebrations and customs, and are encouraged to develop an awareness of oral Hebrew.

Currently, the staff team consists of a Head Teacher, Deputy and 5 members of staff of whom 4 have appropriate childcare qualifications and a volunteer.

How good is the Day Care?

Apples and Honey, The Nursery on the Common provides good care for children.

Space and resource are organised effectively to meet children's needs. The premises are clean, well maintained and provide a safe and stimulating environment for children to play and learn. Children are encouraged to play freely with the range

of resources, which are set up every day. Children are also encouraged to take part in more structured activities. There is a good range of play materials, toys and equipment, which are easily accessible to children on low level units around the rooms. There are clear policies in place, which staff implement with good effect, to promote the welfare and care of the children.

The nursery takes positive steps to promote safety and children have a good awareness of potential dangers. Staff promote good health and hygiene practices within the children's daily routine. Not all aspects of the medication procedure are in place. Staff are aware of children's dietary needs and appropriate storage is provided for children's lunch boxes.

The children's individual needs are taken into account and they have access to a wide range of age appropriate toys, play materials and resources. The staff are active in promoting the welfare and development of children with special needs in partnership with parents. Staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues and there are procedures in place to ensure the protection of children.

There are clear procedures in place for behaviour management, which are implemented effectively by the staff and are shared with parents.

Relationships with parents are very good and children's records of development are shared with parents regularly.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Actions set at last inspection have been completed satisfactorily. Children's times of arrival and departure are included in register, written Recruitment Procedure, Child Protection Procedure and Outings Procedure have been put into place.

What is being done well?

- Space and resources are organised well to meet the needs of the children effectively. Good use is made of the outdoor area to extend opportunities for children's play and learning.
- Good range of activities provided that support the children's all round development.
- Staff take positive steps to promote safety and children have a good awareness of potential dangers.
- Staff promote good behaviour and children very well behaved. Staff give lots of encouragement, cuddles and praise to children throughout the day.
- Staff promote good health and hygiene practices within the children's daily routine.
- Staff are active in promoting the welfare and development of children with special needs, in partnership with parents.

What needs to be improved?

- the system to formalise the deputy's role
- the organisation of written documentation within the nursery, the system for recording medication administered to children to include written consent from parents before administering medication to children and, the complaint policy to include Ofsted's telephone number

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	devise a system to formalise deputising
14	ensure paper work is well organised; written parental consent to administer medication is obtained in advance and, the complaints policy includes Ofsted's telephone number.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Apples and Honey, The Nursery on the Common offers high quality nursery education. Children make very good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas.

Teaching is very good. Staff are aware of the early learning goals and they plan and provide a range of activities, which successfully progress children's learning. Activities are evaluated well and children are set challenges to extend their learning, by staff differentiating the activities and resources offered. Staff have good relationships with children and due to the small size of the group, have a good awareness of each child's progress. Some targets set to encourage children to make progress are inappropriate.

Children behave very well, responding to the high expectations and sensitive support of staff. There are effective systems in place to support children who speak English as an additional language and children who have special needs. Staff provide many opportunities for children to develop their creativity and imagination. They make excellent use of the garden to create a stimulating environment in which all areas of children's learning are encouraged. The local community is used effectively to raise children's awareness of natural resources and their own cultures and beliefs. Children also have opportunities to gain awareness of other cultures and beliefs and this is done in meaningful ways, however, integrating positive images of the cultures and beliefs of others in every day play would enhance this further.

Leadership and management are very good. The manager offers strong leadership and staff work well together. A quality initiative scheme enables the staff team to evaluate and monitor the care and education they are providing.

Partnership with parents is very good. Staff work closely with parents, keeping them well informed of their child's progress and giving them lots of opportunities to become involved in a wide range of activities and events at the nursery.

What is being done well?

- Staff use excellent methods to promote children's good behaviour and encourage them to show care and consideration for others. They are good role models, using positive language and a calm and polite approach to help children understand the impact of unacceptable behaviour on others.
- Staff work well with parents, sharing information with them verbally and through newsletters, displays and other written information. Well written reports and formal parents evenings keep parents informed of their child's progress, whilst regular parent forums enable parents to feel included and to make valid contributions about the nursery.

- The activity planning fully encompasses the foundation curriculum ethos, enabling children to explore, examine and question through play. All areas of learning are fully integrated into activities, with staff extending children through the questions they ask, differentiated activities and extension groups for older children.
- Staff make very good use of the outside play area to create a stimulating and enriching environment. A range of sensorial resources are used to encourage children to express themselves, whilst outside play equipment is used effectively to fully challenge children in their physical development.
- Staff are very caring and create an environment which is warm and welcoming. The inclusive ethos means that children with special needs are given very good levels of care and support by staff.
- Staff provide and effectively use a wide range of resources to encourage children's overall learning. Activities are very well organised and there is effective planning to ensure children make good progress.

What needs to be improved?

- the evaluation of the targets set for children, to ensure they are appropriate and achievable
- the integration of existing resources that promote positive images of the cultures and beliefs of others into everyday activities to enhance children's knowledge and awareness of cultures and beliefs.

What has improved since the last inspection?

One point for consideration was made at the last inspection, in relation to communication with parents.

Very good progress has been made in this area. Parents are now asked to contribute their own observations about their child's progress to date, when their child first enters the nursery. This information is recorded in an initial child profile, and used by the staff team to inform planning. Staff also complete detailed reports on children's progress, which are shared with parents, and organise formal parents evenings.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are interested and motivated to learn. They play well on their own and in groups, are able to concentrate and have good listening skills. Children are able to take themselves to the toilet, wash their hands and pour drinks. They are confident, motivated and respond well to staff and one another. The children are very well behaved and show care and concern for one another. They initiate activities and make suggestions. Children have a good awareness of their own community and culture.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children communicate well. They have a wide vocabulary and feel confident to speak in group sessions. They can sustain attentive listening and take turns in conversations. They enjoy music sessions and story time, and respond well to rhyme. Children are able to link letters to sounds, are able to recognise their own names in print and understand that print carries meaning. Children show a love of books and know how to use them appropriately. Writing is encouraged for a variety of purposes.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are able to count in a variety of situations, as part of everyday play. Most children are able to count up to 10, and many beyond this. They use a range of resources to match, sort, calculate and make patterns. Early calculation is encouraged through songs, stories and games. Children problem solve using a range of activities, and can sort into groups by colour, size, number and shape. Weights and measures are used daily and staff encourage children to use mathematical language.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children explore and investigate using nature, life cycles and construction materials. They undertake cooking activities and design and make a range of objects from a wide range of resources. Programmable toys and everyday technology are used confidently. Children have covered themes to develop their awareness of time, and undertake local outings to learn about their local environment. They also have opportunities to develop awareness of the beliefs and cultures of others.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have developed their gross and fine motor skills, using tools with increased skill, and moving freely and with confidence. They experiment with different ways of moving, using imagination and concentration. They have a good awareness of how their bodies work and healthy eating. The garden area is well resourced and used imaginatively and with interest by the children. Children use a range of malleable materials and effect change to the materials using a range of tools and equipment.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children explore colour, shape and texture using a range of resources. They show good imagination when moving to music, and enjoy playing the piano and using musical instruments. Children engage in role play based on their own first hand experience, using materials imaginatively and engaging one another within their play. They select resources independently and initiate activities in a creative manner. They are able to express and communicate their ideas to staff and one another.

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 are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- consider introducing a formal system of evaluating the targets set for children, to ensure they are appropriate and achievable
- consider how existing resources that promote positive images of the cultures and beliefs of others can be further integrated into everyday activities to enhance children's knowledge and awareness of cultures and beliefs.

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.