



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 135079

DfES Number: 500157

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/11/2004
Inspector Name Debra Davey

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Queensborough Community Childcare Centre
Setting Address 5 - 8 Queensborough Terrace
London
W2 3TA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S SOCIETY 2228978 299686

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name WESTMINSTER CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
Address 121 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4LX

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

Queensborough Community Childcare Centre opened in 1968. It operates from one main room, with two additional rooms and enclosed garden area, in the basement of a block of flats in Bayswater. The nursery provides a service for families from the local community, which includes placements funded by Social Services.

There are currently 28 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 9 funded 3 year olds and 6 funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting has experience of supporting children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week all year round. Sessions are from 08:30 until 17:30.

Seven full-time staff work with the children, the majority of which have early years qualifications. One staff member is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

The nursery receives support from a speech therapist and benefits from support afforded by the Westminster Children's Society. The setting is embarking on a pilot scheme for quality assurance.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The Queensborough Community Childcare Centre offers good quality provision, which helps children make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

Children make very good progress in personal, social and emotional development, communication, language and literacy, mathematical, physical and creative development. They also make very good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world due to the stimulating range of activities and the multi-cultural environment.

The quality of teaching is very good and staff demonstrate a sound understanding of the foundation stage making particularly good use of time and resources to support children's learning. Staff plan with good effect and provide a challenging and valuable child centred approach to teaching resulting in children who are confident and motivated to learn. The staff team are planning to further develop their assessment system to ensure that aims for children are consistently recorded. Children respond well to the sensitive support of staff and their behaviour is good.

Leadership and management of the setting is very good and staff are encouraged to take advantage of training opportunities provided by the Early Years Partnership. The Westminster Children's Society also provides ongoing curriculum training. This results in knowledgeable staff who work well as a team and are able to evaluate the provision. The centre is involved in a quality assurance programme, which ensures that staff evaluate practice and monitor the effectiveness of the nursery education.

The partnership with parents is very good and contributes to children's progress towards the early learning goals. Parents are well informed about the nursery activities and routines. They are encouraged to be involved in their child's learning through a range of information and parent user groups, such as a toy library. There are effective systems in place to ensure a link between home and nursery.

What is being done well?

- Staff provide a child centred environment, which challenges the children and allows them to share what they know.
- Children develop good awareness of their own cultures and those of others through a range of projects and activities relating to the wider world.
- Children are able to self-select from a range of stimulating resources, they concentrate well for extended periods and behaviour is good.
- The programme for creative development is very good and children are able to access free art, sand and water during every session.
- The programme for communication, language and literacy is a strength of the

nursery. Staff and children engage in fruitful discussions during the day and children make good progress in their writing skills.

- The programme for physical play is very good and children show emerging skill when using large and small equipment both indoors and when using the nursery garden.
- Parents and carers are very welcome into the setting and encouraged to be involved in their child's learning.
- Leadership is strong and staff consistently monitor and evaluate the provision for nursery education.

What needs to be improved?

- consistent evaluation of child progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The use of daily routines to promote learning.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are highly involved in activities and are able to sit and concentrate, for example, when listening and following instructions during a food tasting activity. They are confident when expressing their likes and dislikes. Children are learning right from wrong and are able to take turns and to share. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their independence through practical experiences such as helping themselves to snack and selecting resources.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Staff skilfully plan and support activities to extend children's language through asking questions and giving new information. Children have lots of opportunities to write, recognise letters and words. Small group work encourages the children to speak confidently, whilst sharing their own experiences and ideas. Children enjoy books through planned story times with props and through handling books themselves.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are learning to count and understand numbers through a range of practical experiences. Children have opportunities to weigh, make patterns, and compare size. Children recognise and write numerals and use mathematical language confidently. Staff allow children to problem solve for themselves for example when cutting fruit for snack and during planned cooking activities. They have lots of opportunities to extend their use of mathematical language.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children have excellent opportunities to learn about the world they live in. Well planned activities and outings offer the children lots of experiences such as handling animals, playing musical instruments and making models. Children are involved in growing projects in the garden and are encouraged to design, build and construct using a range of recycled materials. Children have opportunities to use complex toys such as the metal detector.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are using a range of small and large equipment with increasing control for example rolling pins and climbing equipment. Children move confidently in and out doors, showing an awareness of others around them. Children have opportunities to find out about the importance of staying healthy, discussing foods and cleaning their teeth after lunch. They have discussed what happens to their bodies for example when active they get hot.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children explore movement and rhythm through drama and music. Children have acquired a good knowledge of colour, texture, shape, form and space in two and three dimensions. They are encouraged to use their senses through various activities. Children know how to use books appropriately and participate actively at story time. They confidently make up and tell their own stories, to each other and adults. Some children are able to draw recognisable pictures.

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:

- as a point for consideration the staff should further improve the evaluation of child progress to ensure that staff consistently identify learning intentions for children.

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.