



**Office for Standards
in Education**

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 113598

DfES Number: 522365

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/03/2004
Inspector Name Maureen Croxford

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Midhurst Nursery Class
Setting Address The Youth Club
 Lamberts Lane
 Midhurst
 West Sussex
 GU29 9EA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Christine Reseigh

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

Midhurst Nursery Class opened in 1984 and is registered for full day care. It operates from four rooms in the local Youth Club in the centre of Midhurst, West Sussex. The provision serves the local area and surrounding villages. There are currently twenty-seven children from two to five years on roll. This includes seventeen funded three-year-olds and seven funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9.00am until 3.00pm on Monday, 9.00am until 12.15pm on Tuesday and Thursday and from 9.00am until 1.00pm on Wednesday and Friday.

There are five part time staff working with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The provider is a Froebel trained nursery teacher.

The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

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 Midhurst Nursery Class is very good. Children make very good progress in all six areas of learning.

Staff are qualified, experienced and work extremely well together to create a calm, welcoming child-centred environment, where children are motivated and feel secure. Children are helpful and supportive to each other and behave very well.

Staff have a secure knowledge of the Foundation Stage and use their knowledge to enable each child to progress towards the early learning goals. The planning of the topics and activities in each of the six areas of learning, is extremely good. There are effective methods in place to evaluate each activity. The quality of teaching is very good.

The staff are skilled in their teaching methods and use everyday routines and experiences to extend children's learning. Excellent methods are used to teach children knowledge and understanding of the world. There are good systems in place to assess children's progress which are being further developed.

Leadership and management of the provision is excellent. Staff work extremely well as a team and act as positive role models. The manager and staff share responsibility for planning and assessment. Professional development is valued and the nursery is currently undertaking a quality assurance programme.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are kept well informed about the provision and their children's progress towards the early learning goals. They are made welcome in the nursery and have opportunities to become involved in topics and activities. There are effective systems in place to share information.

What is being done well?

- Staff are extremely good role models. They teach children good manners and social skills and encourage them to practice them in every activities.
- Everyday activities are extended to promote children's learning, self-confidence and independence. Children develop a good sense of community and planned activities include regular visits to the library, shopping and exploring the local area.
- Spoken language in the provision is excellent. Staff and children initiate conversations with each other and staff listen to what children have to say. They help children to extend their vocabulary and explore the meaning and sound of words, through real experiences.
- Children learn to count, use numbers in planned activities and practice their knowledge in their play. Staff teach children to sort by function, compare

shape, size, quantity and to use appropriate mathematical language.

- Children participate enthusiastically in well planned musical activities. Staff encourage children to listen to a variety of music and use musical instruments..

What needs to be improved?

- the further development of the children's developmental records.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the nursery has put several measures in place to exchange information about children's development and progress. Parents and staff now readily share information through open days, Home and Nursery books, consultations and informal talks.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are happy, relaxed and well motivated to learn. They behave well and know what is expected of them. They are given good support and guidance to develop high levels of independence and self-esteem. Children build strong relationships with peers and staff. They are confident and are able to select resources for themselves. They are beginning to develop a sense of community.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children interact and converse very well with each other and staff and are becoming confident enough to use their increasing vocabulary in role play situations. Children are offered a good introduction to reading and writing through well structured activities. They appreciate and enjoy books, both for pleasure and reference, handling them appropriately.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are able to count reliably, using numbers in planned activities and practicing their knowledge in their play. They have many opportunities to explore simple calculation. Staff teach children to sort by function, compare shape, size and quantity and use correct mathematical language.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children show a lively interest in the world around them. They remember and relate what they have learned. Staff introduce and develop the idea of the passing time by teaching the children about seasons and festivals. Children explore, investigate and discuss natural objects and materials. They have many opportunities to visit local facilities to expand their knowledge of their own environment. They use a variety of tools and techniques to construct and are able to explore simple technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move with confidence and safety around the nursery. Children show good co-ordination and an awareness of space and others. They have regular planned physical activities, both indoors and outdoors. Children develop excellent fine motor skills through good teaching techniques and graded resources. Staff teach the children the importance of keeping healthy and good health and hygiene practice in everyday situations and in planned topic work.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children participate enthusiastically in well planned musical activities. Staff encourage children to explore a variety of different types of music and instruments. Children have opportunities to experiment with colour, shape and texture in art, craft and design. Staff provide opportunities for children to express themselves through role play and to use their imaginations in creative activities.

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:
- ensure that the children's developmental records continue to be developed.

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.