



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY262312

DfES Number: 522935

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	25/03/2004
Inspector Name	Samantha Jayne Taylor

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Bertram Road Children Day Nursery
Setting Address	6 Bertram Road Small Heath Birmingham West Midlands B10 9QP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Birmingham City Council
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Birmingham City Council
Address	Education Department Council House Extension, Margaret Street Birmingham West Midlands B3 3PU

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

Bertram Road Day Nursery opened in 1990 and has been running under the auspices of Birmingham Council. The nursery registered under OFSTED in 2003. The nursery serves the local area and receives funding for neighbourhood nursery places.

There are currently 62 children from 0-8 years on roll. This includes 22 neighbourhood nursery places. There are also funded three year- old and four year-old places. Children can attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs, and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week all year round except for bank holidays. Sessions are between the hours of 07:30 and 18:00. Children can attend for a variety of sessions.

There are seven full time members of staff who work with the children. They all hold a childcare qualification to NVQ level 2 or 3. The nusery is currently recruiting staff. There is also a part time bilingual worker. The setting receives support from a link worker from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Bertram Road Community Day Nursery provides good quality care for children.

The management strategies in place to ensure that staff are deployed effectively. Space is used effectively with separate areas for quiet and physical play, however the organisation groups does not meet all children's needs. The environment is bright and staff are welcoming. There are policies and procedures in place to ensure that staff have a consistent approach to their work; staff are knowledgeable and well informed. Regular staff meetings are held and staff development is encouraged through the appraisal system. Equipment and resources are maintained, conform to safety standards and are in good condition, however some equipment is not

included in the risk assessment.

Documentation is accurately maintained and policies and procedures are reviewed regularly. New staff receive effective induction and regular training is available for existing staff. Attention is paid to health and hygiene and children are familiar with nursery routines. A wide variety of nutritious meals and snacks to meet individual dietary requirements are prepared on site; children enjoy the attractive meals offered. The nursery is rich in culture and community, toys and resources reflect positive images. Children with special educational needs are welcomed and supported.

Staff plan a range of activities which meet children's interests and meets their overall development including outside activities. Children are encouraged to explore and make their own choices about play and learning. Staff extend children's learning through discussion and praise, children behave well.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents express confidence in the provision and in the support that is given to both children and parents. Information is shared regularly via written information, newsletters, displays and the parent's information board, parental participation is encouraged.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable as this is the first inspection.

What is being done well?

- Documentation is accurately maintained; there are comprehensive policies which are shared with parents and students which informs practice and procedure.
- Staff are deployed effectively to provide continuous care to children; children are confident in their surroundings, are familiar with routines and appear secure.
- Staff plan a range of activities which meet children's interests and are appropriate for their developmental age.
- There is a strong emphasis on community involvement. Children with English as an additional language are supported in many ways including visual images within the environment and a bi-lingual worker.
- Children are listened to and their learning is extended via appropriate discussion, including questioning. Children behave well and respond to the praise given.
- Parents express confidence in the provision. Information is shared via newsletters, policies inform parents of practices and procedures, this encourages good relationships.

What needs to be improved?

- the written risk assessments to include all equipment
- the grouping of children.

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	Ensure children are grouped effectively at all times so the needs of all children are met.
6	Ensure written risk assessment are reviewed to include equipment.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Bertram Road Community Day Nursery provides very good nursery education for 3 and 4 year old children. Children are making very good progress towards the Early Learning Goals.

Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the foundation stage curriculum and obtain the support of the Early Years Link Advisor.

Children are encouraged to be actively involved in their learning. Staff offer opportunities for children to think, explore and children are beginning to develop independence. Activities are adapted for children who learn at different rates. The accommodation is used effectively and children have access to good quality resources, which reflect diversity and are free from discrimination and stereotyping.

Staff are calm, patient, tolerant and children are praised for good, kind behaviour and effort. Expectations are high and staff use open-ended questions to challenge and extend children's learning.

Planning takes account of the learning needs and interests of each child and gives careful attention to the inclusion of all children. Assessment procedures are effective in recording children's progress and any learning difficulties they may have with their progress over time. Children attend with special educational needs and English as an additional language. There is an effective system in place to provide support.

The leadership and management of the setting is very good. Staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities and work well together as a team. Weaknesses identified at previous inspection have been tackled and there is an ongoing review process in place.

Partnership with parents is very good. The nursery operates an "open door" policy. Parents receive relevant, detailed information about the nursery and their child's progress and achievements. Parents are welcome to help out during sessions and take part in training such as "Inspire Workshops".

What is being done well?

- Children work, play and cooperate with each other,
- they speak clearly and fluently; staff value the linguistic diversity within the setting.
- Children enjoy mathematical learning and it is purposeful. They develop mathematical skills through a variety of interesting activities.
- Staff provide an inviting environment that is well organised. Children have

access a well-resourced library and use of a ball pool.

- Plans cover all six areas of learning and assessments are systematic, informative and clearly links to the stepping-stones.
- Parents are made to feel welcome and valued by staff.

What needs to be improved?

- The opportunities for children to maximise their personal independence throughout daily routines.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has made very good progress since the last inspection.

One key issue identified at the previous inspection was to develop a system for assessing staff strengths and weaknesses. The management have devised a self-evaluation form for staff to complete this as part of the appraisal and supervision process. Staff's professional development is encouraged and wherever possible training requests are granted.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children show an interest in learning and are self-assured. They work well in groups and have some opportunities to work independently, they are able to take turns and share equipment. Children confidently express their needs and ideas and relate well to each other and adults in the group. Children are encouraged to talk about their home and community life. They are learning that people have different cultures and beliefs.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children engage easily in conversation with each other and adults in the group. They handle books confidently and enjoy listening to stories. Children are practising writing their names, with many letters correctly formed. They speak, listen and represent their ideas and learn new vocabulary from stories and significant experiences. The nursery provides many opportunities for children to use and build on their home language through notices, books, resources and activities.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children show confidence with numbers through counting and number activities. Children see numbers as labels in the environment through charts, friezes and displays. They recognise shapes and learn about size, position and quantity during well-planned activities. Children can sort and match numbers.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children learn to observe, explore, question and gather information through practical activities. They have access to a computer and other technological resources and use them confidently. Children talk about their families and a sense of time is fostered well through daily routines. Outings and visitors into the group are introduced to extend and consolidate the children's learning. Positive images of diversity are evident throughout the nursery.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have plenty of opportunities to explore, experiment and refine their movements and actions. They play with wheeled toys, can steer carefully and use space sensibly. Children use a range of equipment such as beanbags, hoops and balls, they can throw, catch and kick. They are developing their fine co-ordination skills effectively through using malleable materials, scissors and writing materials. Children are developing a good awareness of a healthy lifestyle.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are able to participate in craft and painting activities, displays reflect the individuality of children's work. Staff help children observe closely main features of living things. They learn about music, using musical instruments with confidence, children sing songs and rhymes. Children express their ideas freely through a good range of activities such as role-play, painting and model making. The role-play area as a "hairdressers" provides very good play and learning opportunities.	

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:

- Increase the opportunities for all children to further develop and maximise their personal independence.

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.