



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 135319

DfES Number: 519962

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 09/11/2004  
Inspector Name Philippa Clare Williams

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Little People's Nursery  
Setting Address Wilkinson Scout Hut  
Tile Kiln Lane  
London  
N13 6BY

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Partnership of Gina Jones & Karen Arden  
Address Little People's Nursery  
Wilkinson Scout Hut  
Tile Kiln Lane  
Palmers Green, London  
N13 6BY

## 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

Little People's Nursery has been operating since 1995. It is located in the hall of a Scout Hut in the Palmers Green N13. The Nursery serves a multi cultural community. They offer sessional care to 24 children Monday to Friday 9.00 to 11.30 and 12.30 to 15.00 term time only.

There are currently 31 children aged from 2 and a half years to under 5 years on roll. Of these 25 children receive funding for nursery education. The Nursery currently supports one child who has special educational needs and also a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The Nursery is run jointly by two Supervisors. There is a staff team of 4, including the Supervisors. Three of the staff hold appropriate child care qualifications and one staff is working towards a qualification.

The Nursery receives support from the Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

The Nursery provides good quality care. The staff team are appropriately qualified and experienced, however only one staff has a current first aid certificate.

Most of the required policies and procedure are in place, although one policy needs updating. Good organisation enables staff and volunteers to work closely with children. Children have sufficient space to move around and play comfortably. Staff have a good understanding of health and safety and provide children with a safe environment. The premises are well maintained and the levels of hygiene and cleanliness are good. A varied range of healthy snacks and drinks are available for the children. Children with special needs are welcomed, included and are supported. However the needs of children who have English as an additional language are not sufficiently supported. Staff are aware of the child protection procedures.

Children are provided with a wide range of resources and activities to promote all areas of learning. Staff adopt an active role in promoting learning. They have good relationships with the children, children are happy and contented in their play. Staff have high expectations for behaviour they help children to share and take turns, children respond well to staff praise and encouragement, they are well behaved most of the time. Staff make regular observations of children's progress which are well documented, however they are not used effectively in the planning, which leads to some missed opportunities in children's learning.

Parents are made welcomed and encouraged to help out during the session. An informative notice board, newsletters and information about the Nursery and curriculum are available to parents. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress through sharing of child profile books, informal discussions and a formal meeting once a year. Most parents expressed satisfaction about the service. All the required records were in place.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

At the previous Inspection the Nursery were required to meet 18 Actions. All of these have now been achieved.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Children are provided with a wide range of resources and activities to promote all areas of learning, staff play an active role in promoting learning, they question children well and extend their vocabulary. Staff sustain children's interest in activities and good interaction extends their learning.
- Staff have high expectations for behaviour. A range of age appropriate strategies are used to promote positive behaviour. Staff help children to learn to share and take turns. Children respond well to staff praise and encouragement. Children are well behaved most of the time.
- Children's profile books are used well to record children's progress and value children's work and time at the Nursery. Children enjoy sharing their books with staff and their families.
- Children are provided with a range of healthy nutritious snacks, there is a changing weekly snack menu.
- Comprehensive parent handbook contains information about setting, curriculum, policies and procedures.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- first aid qualifications of staff
- the opportunities and resources for children who have English as an additional language
- written documentation relating to lost and uncollected children

- the maintenance and detail of written documentation of the daily attendance register

**PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)**

On the 11th June a concern was raised to Ofsted by a member of the public.

It was alleged that a passer by saw 1 member of staff outside on the grass with 20 children aged between 2 and 4 years old.

This relates to National Standards 2 - Organisations. 2.7 staffing ratios

A Child Care Inspector carried out an unannounced visit, the Manager was interviewed.

The Manager disputed the allegation, although the Nursery meets the minimum required adult/child ratio, it was found that National Standards with regard to adult/child ratios could be breached as there were possible times when using the outside area when staff may be called away on an emergency, possibly leaving insufficient staff with the children.

The provider has agreed Actions to ensure ratios are maintained at all times. The provider agreed to review the operational plan to make sure staff are effectively deployed particularly when using the outside area. The provider has agreed to consider taking on additional staff/volunteer/parent in order to ensure that the Nursery can meet adult/child ratios when using outside and indoor areas

The following issue was also identified during the investigation but does not relate specifically to the original complaint.

The fence at the side of the building had fallen down leading to the side and back of the building being easily accessible and a child possibly going missing. This relates to Standard 6 - Safety.

The provider agreed to mend the fence within the next 7 days, and carry out a risk assessment to outside area in order to minimize potential hazards.

The Actions were followed up at this Inspection and ratios were met, additional parent volunteer is now being used, a risk assessment is carried out when using outside area and the fence has now been repaired.

**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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

| Std | Action   | Date       |
|-----|--|------------|
| 7   | Develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate will be on the premises or on outings at any one time | 08/12/2004 |

**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

| Std | Recommendation  |
|-----|---|
| 9   | Improve the opportunities for children who have English as an additional language by planning for their needs, using more resources, especially those represented by children in the group. |
| 14  | Maintain up to date written documentation of daily attendance register with all the required details with hours of attendance   |
| 14  | Review and update the lost and uncollected child procedure.   |

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

The nursery provides good quality nursery education and children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals.

The teaching is generally good. Staff support, motivate and encourage children by providing a good balance of activities. Staff adopt an active role in promoting learning. However there are times when staff do not use children's self chosen activities to extend their maths ideas, some creative activities are over directed, and opportunities for physical skills and using information technology are not sufficiently planned. Staff observe and assess children's learning, however this information is not always used effectively in the planning. They have good relationships with the children, children are happy and contented in their play. There is a good balance of child directed activities and those directed by staff. There is wide range of resources which are well organised to increase children's independence. Staff have high expectations for behaviour, they use range of age appropriate strategies and help children to learn to share and take turns. Children respond well to staff praise and encouragement and are well behaved most of the time. The needs of children who have English as an additional language are not sufficiently supported.

The leadership and management is very good. Staff work very well together to create a positive learning experience for the children. They are deployed appropriately around the setting. The staff team are committed to improvement and attend ongoing courses.

The partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are made welcomed and encouraged to help out during the session. An informative notice board, newsletters and information about the Nursery and curriculum are available to parents. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress through sharing of child profile books, informal discussions and a formal meeting once a year. Most parents expressed satisfaction about the service.

### What is being done well?

- Staff encourage children to extend their conversation through good questioning and introducing new vocabulary, as a result children talk confidently.
- Children appeared confident in expressing their needs and ideas, they relate well to each other and other adults.
- Children fully participate and enjoy the singing and music and movement session. They make up their own stories in the home corner and make very good use of the role play resources.
- Children's confidence and independence is fostered well. Children are developing good self care skills as they pour their own drinks, wash their

hands, tidy up and put on their own aprons.

- Children confidently use their profile books well to recall past events and talk about themselves, their families and friends.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- the system to link assessments and the next step in children's learning to the planning of activities.
- the opportunities for children to develop their maths ideas and solve practical maths problems in self chosen activities and everyday situations.
- the opportunities and support for children to develop their understanding of information communication technology and express their own ideas and imagination through creative activities.
- the opportunities for children to begin to link sounds to letters and to use equipment to develop climbing and balancing skills.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

The Nursery has made generally good progress since the last Inspection.

The staff now have a satisfactory knowledge of the early learning goals. They have developed their planning system and long term objectives for learning are now set which relate to early learning goals, although they are still to establish a link between planning and the assessments made on children's progress. Opportunities are provided for children to use number in practical situations, however further development is required to help children to solve practical problems in self chosen activities. The assessments and record keeping system has been developed and now links clearly to the early learning goals. All staff are now familiar with the Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children approach activities with excitement, they are enthusiastic and eager. They take pride in their achievements and profile books are used well. They have established good relationship with each other and staff and behave well. Children learn about different cultures and beliefs. They are developing good self care skills they choose resources, use the toilet and wash their hands, pour their own drinks. Although children with English as additional language are not sufficiently supported.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Most children are confident speakers and engage in conversations with each other and adults, there are many good opportunities for children to discuss ideas. The use of phonics for sounding words and rhyming is limited. Children enjoy looking at books independently and in groups and can retell stories well. Children use independent writing materials well in their role play. Most children can read their own names and there are good opportunities for children to begin to read labels and captions.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children can count, say, and use numbers up to 10 and beyond. They have a developing awareness of language to describe shape, size, position and quantity. Children are beginning to develop an understanding of adding and subtracting through use of props at story time. However staff do not use children's self chosen activities to extend their maths ideas, there are not sufficient opportunities for children to solve practical maths problems.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are introduced to other cultures through activities, festivals and resources. Children have varied opportunities to build and construct. Children show a growing understanding of the past as they discuss their families and friends, they use profile books well to recall past events. Children talk about living things and changes that happen as they discuss caterpillars. There are insufficient planned opportunities for children to use information, communication technology.



**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Judgement: | Generally Good |
|------------|----------------|

Children move with confidence around the room and are considerate to others. They enjoyed music and movement and demonstrated good spatial awareness as they run, skip, jump and hop around the hall. Children use tools and malleable materials with increasing control. Children have too few opportunities to use equipment, and to develop climbing and balancing skills. Children are beginning to learn about staying healthy.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Judgement: | Generally Good |
|------------|----------------|

Children enjoy singing and participated fully in the music and movement session, some children know songs from memory. There is a good range of resources and opportunities for children to role play. There was insufficient opportunities to foster children's creativity and their ability to express their ideas as the sticking activity was over directed and other opportunities were limited.

**Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.**

## **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: THE KEY ISSUES**

- Develop a system to link assessments and the next step in children's learning to the planning of activities.
- Improve the opportunities for children to develop their maths ideas and solve practical maths problems in self chosen activities and everyday situations.
- Improve the opportunities and support for children to develop their understanding of information communication technology and express their own ideas and imagination through creative activities.
- Improve the opportunities for children to begin to link sounds to letters and to use equipment to develop climbing and balancing skills.

*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.*