



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 319148

DfES Number: 513016

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/06/2003
Inspector Name Kathleen Cairns

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Childsplay Claremont Nursery Co-operative Ltd
Setting Address 17 Claremont Place
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE2 4AA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Childsplay Claremont Nursery Co-operative Ltd

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Childsplay Claremont Nursery Co-operative Ltd
Address 17 Claremont Place
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE2 4AA

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

Childsplay Claremont Nursery Co-operative is located in the centre of Newcastle, near to Newcastle University and the central motorway. Established for 20 years, Childsplay is a non-profit making organisation registered to look after 70 children aged from birth to under five years, though children are not usually admitted until they are six months old. Directed by a parents' cooperative, the nursery takes in children whose parents attend or work at the university and is also open to the general public.

There are 21 members of staff, all of whom are appropriately qualified; the manager and deputy are supernumerary. There is also a secretary and domestic staff

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The nursery is open from 08.30 to 17.30 Monday to Friday all year round.

Spread over three levels, the nursery has four main areas: the baby unit accommodating children aged from birth to 18 months; the toddler unit, the two to three unit for children aged from 18 months to three years, and the pre-school unit which accommodates children aged three years and over.

Of the children currently on roll, 33 receive funding; of these, 25 are three-year-olds and eight are four-year-olds. There are two children who speak English as a second language. None of the funded children have special needs.

The pre-school unit accommodates up to 25 children at any one time. They are taught using the High/Scope approach. The group receives support 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?

Childsplay Claremont Nursery Co-operative offers very good quality nursery education where children enjoy learning through a wide range of interesting activities. They are making very good progress in all six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff provide an exciting and inspiring curriculum that offers the children opportunities to learn about the world in which they live. They help the children express ideas across the six areas of learning through language, paint, music and movement and encourage them to count accurately and competently. Staff have high expectations of the children's behaviour and encourage them to respect themselves and others. Accurate observations of the children ensure that assessment is used effectively to monitor the children's progress and to inform future planning.

Leadership and management is very good. Strong and consistent leadership that expects the best from staff and gets it, has produced a highly skilled and effective team committed to providing good education for the children they care for. They work well together as a team and perfect their practice through regular and relevant training.

Partnership with parents is very good and makes a significant contribution to children's learning. Parents receive quality information about the educational provision and details of current themes and future plans are available on the noticeboard for parents to scrutinise. Parents feel very positive about the nursery and the impact it has on their child. Staff are sensitive and supportive to parents and work with them to ensure the children make good progress in all areas of their learning.

What is being done well?

- Children are confident, highly motivated enthusiastic and independent. Their behaviour is very good and they show interest in and concern for other children and adults.
- Ample opportunities for children to read and write throughout their time in nursery. They speak clearly and are attentive listeners.
- Children are developing very good counting skills and they understand shape and size through spontaneous and well planned activities
- Highly qualified staff provide a rich and exciting curriculum that helps the children express ideas across the six areas of learning through language, paint, music and movement .
- Staff are sensitive and supportive to parents and work with them in partnership to ensure that children make good progress in all areas of their

learning.

- Strong leadership has produced well informed and dedicated staff committed to the provision of good education for the children they care for.

What needs to be improved?

- further development of putting plans into practice for improving the outdoor curriculum

What has improved since the last inspection?

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

Assessment through observation and evaluation informs planning to ensure that children make progress in the six areas of learning.

Children are regularly engaged in activities that encourage them to use their senses. They handle, scrutinise and smell natural objects and materials such as rocks, stones, grass and plants, observe their environment and follow life cycles. They discuss things, listen to stories, sing songs and engage in conversation with others.

A member of staff is available in each area of learning to support the children's learning and ensure sufficient challenge. Staff are currently working to develop the outdoor area to improve the outdoor curriculum. This typifies the staff's commitment to raising already good standards further still.

The High/Scope approach is used. Teaching allows the children to work independently. Older children now participate in a daily phonics session; as a result, some older children can recognise and reproduce letter combinations accurately and confidently. Books are used appropriately and with interest.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in personal, social and emotional development. They are interested, excited and motivated to learn. They form good relationships with other children and adults and show interest and enjoyment when conversing with others. They behave very well and understand the "rules of the house".

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in creative, language and literacy. They interact well with others, speak clearly, and listen attentively and with enjoyment to stories and tapes. They frequently handle books and understand that text carries meaning. Many can read a range of familiar words and older children are beginning to understand sentence formation. Daily phonic sessions has enabled older children to read and reproduce simple letter combinations both orally and in writing.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in mathematical development. A designated maths area helps the children focus on mathematical concepts. As a result, they can recognise numerals, show a developing understanding of addition and subtraction and confidently use language that describes position and size. they have regular experience of practical mathematics in their daily routine.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world. They find out about real and artificial objects and experience the world they live in through exploration of the outdoor area. They can watch things grow and can observe the life cycle of living things. All the children use the computer competently.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children make very good progress in physical development. They develop their skills as they jump, slide, climb and balance in a range of well planned activities both indoors, such as in music and movement sessions and in the exciting, well-thought-out outdoor area.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress in creative development. There is an excellent range of resources through which children can explore a variety of materials including sand, water, paint and modelling materials. The children role play, use their imagination and have fun.

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:
- further developing the high quality provision by putting ideas into practice for the outdoor curriculum.

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.