



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 106918

DfES Number: 515574

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 06/07/2004  
Inspector Name Flo Griffin-Taylor

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Bristol University Day Nursery  
Setting Address 34 St. Michaels Park  
Kingsdown  
Bristol  
Avon  
BS2 8BW

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name University Nursery Parents Assoc

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name University Nursery Parents Assoc  
Address Bristol University Day Nursery  
34 St Michaels Park  
Kingsdown  
Bristol  
BS2 8BW

## 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

Bristol University Day Nursery is run by the University Nursery Parents Association, primarily to provide care for the children of students and staff. Places are also offered to those outside the university if there are vacancies. The nursery is well established, having been in operation for many years, and is sited in the Kingsdown area, not far from Bristol city centre. It is based in two adjoining Victorian terraced houses that were especially converted for their current use, and which are owned and maintained by the university.

The nursery operates all year round, apart from bank holidays and staff training days. It is open Monday to Friday, from 08:30 to 17:30. There are currently 68 children on roll, including 12 funded three-year-olds and 15 funded four-year-olds. The nursery has provision for children with special educational needs and for those for whom English is an additional language.

The ground floor is mostly allocated to babies and children aged under two years, with separate baby and toddler rooms. A nappy changing area is adjacent to the rooms. A kitchen, additional toilet, laundry and 'rumpus' room (which provides soft play facilities) are also located nearby. Children aged between two and five years are based on the first floor, which has three main play rooms. Toilet facilities are off these room areas. The office and staff room are also on this level. There is a secure garden for outside play. This is divided into two separate enclosed areas, which are used according to children's age.

Currently there are 14 members of staff who work directly with the children. Twelve hold early years qualifications, one has nearly completed NVQ Level 3 training, and another member of staff is about to commence the same course. The nursery receives support from the Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

Bristol University Day Nursery provides good quality care for children.

The nursery is well organised, with a clear structure and effective management. It offers a warm and welcoming environment where children are happy, interested and involved. Sound recruitment procedures are in place, together with a staff induction programme, regular meetings and an appraisal system. Most of the required documentation is complete, well presented and reviewed regularly. Staff are enthusiastic, committed and work well together as a team. They have a very positive approach to training and staff development.

Children are well cared for by the staff, who offer good role models. They are sensitive, responsive and consistent in approach and give praise and encouragement. Self esteem and confidence are promoted well. Children are well behaved.

Staff have a sound knowledge of the developmental learning requirements of children. Activities are well planned and individual needs taken into account. Assessments are completed and children's progress carefully monitored. An effective key worker system is in place. A wide range of toys, resources and play equipment is available for the children to easily access. All offer challenge, interest and stimulation and support them well in their play and learning opportunities.

Safety is given a high priority and staff follow clear and well established procedures to keep children safe and secure. There is a high standard of cleanliness, and children are encouraged to practise good health and hygiene routines. Careful consideration is given to diet and children are provided with healthy, nutritious meals and snacks.

There is a strong and effective partnership with parents and carers. They are welcomed and valued and actively encouraged to be involved in their child's care and education. Information is shared. Staff keep parents well informed about activities and of their children's progress and achievements.

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

At the last inspection several actions were raised, all of which have been satisfactorily addressed.

The operational plan has been further developed and is regularly reviewed, with policies and procedures compiled in line with the National Standards. These include: outings, administration of medication, special needs, complaints, information to parents and child protection.

Staff caring for babies have suitable experience. Children are appropriately recorded on arrival and departure. The premises have been refurbished and redecorated and are suitably maintained. Written risk assessments have been undertaken, both inside and outside the building, and all areas made safe. This also includes the actions raised with regard to an additional visit carried out when the nursery was extended. All issues detailed were complied with and appropriately addressed.

A visitors' book is in place. Written parental permission is requested to the seeking of emergency medical advice or treatment. The designated member of staff for child

protection has attended relevant training.

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

- The nursery is well organised and managed. Sound recruitment procedures are in place, together with a staff induction programme and an appraisal system. Staff work well together, are enthusiastic, committed and have a positive approach to training and development.
- Children are well cared for and staff support, listen and show interest in all they do. Staff have a sound knowledge of children's developmental learning requirements, and activities are well planned for each age group. Children's progress is carefully monitored.
- A wide range of stimulating toys, play equipment and resources is on offer, that give children challenge, involvement and sustain their interest. These support them well in their play and learning opportunities.
- Safety is given a high priority. Children are well supervised, and there are clear, established procedures in place for keeping them safe and the premises secure.
- Staff are sensitive to the individual needs of children, and are very caring and responsive. All children are valued, included and respected and given praise and positive encouragement.
- There is a strong and effective partnership with parents and carers, all of whom are welcomed and valued. They are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's care and learning. Staff keep parents well informed about activities and the progress of their children.

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

- updating the required documentation, to include written statements of procedures to be followed if a parent fails to collect a child, or if a child is lost, and also with regard to allegations of abuse made against a member of staff.

### **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	Devise written statements of procedures to be followed in the event of a parent failing to collect a child, or of a child being lost.
13	Devise a written statement of procedures to be followed in the event of allegations of abuse made against a member of staff.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Bristol University Day Nursery offers high quality nursery education. It provides a caring, supportive and welcoming environment in which children are making very good progress in all areas towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is very good, and staff have a sound knowledge of the foundation stage. Activities are well planned, stimulating and topic related. Individual needs are taken into account. Children's progress is carefully monitored, and assessments, linked to the stepping stones, are completed for each child. These are under review and being further developed. Children are encouraged to be confident, self reliant, caring and respectful to others. Behaviour is very good. Staff have a clear understanding of how children learn and develop, and are skilled at engaging and building positive relationships with them. They make excellent use of time and resources, and provide children with challenges that sustain interest and extend learning opportunities.

The quality of leadership and management is very good. The nursery is well organised and managed, with its aims stated clearly. Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities, communicate effectively at meetings, and are able to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the provision. Staff show commitment to improvement through an active in-service training programme. They are supported by on-going supervision and yearly appraisals.

There is a strong and effective partnership with parents and carers, who are encouraged to become involved in their children's learning, and to share their skills and expertise. Staff ensure that parents are provided with good quality information about the nursery and its provision in a variety of formats. They are kept well informed about all aspects of their child's care and education, and receive regular updates and written progress reports.

### What is being done well?

- Children are making very good progress in all areas of the early learning goals.
- Staff have a sound knowledge of the foundation stage and a clear understanding of how children learn and develop. Staff are skilled at engaging with the children and building positive relationships with them.
- Children are confident, interested, relate well to each other, and show good levels of independence and concentration. Behaviour is very good.
- Staff make excellent use of time, space and resources. Activities are well planned, with individual needs taken into account. A wide range of stimulating and varied activities is provided, which offer challenge, interest and extend learning opportunities.

- There is effective leadership, with a committed and well motivated staff team. The nursery has recently submitted the Bristol Standard, a self evaluative quality assurance document, and are awaiting accreditation. Staff access training opportunities to support children's learning and improve their practice and provision.
- There is a strong and effective partnership with parents and carers. They are encouraged to become involved in their children's learning. Staff keep them well informed of their child's progress and achievements.

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

- further development of the children's observation and assessment system.

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

Following the last Ofsted inspection on 03/05/2000, one key issue was identified:

Provide more information for parents about the desirable learning outcomes in the six learning areas, and how the nursery will help the children work towards them.

The nursery has made very good progress in this area. The nursery handbook/prospectus provides information to all parents and carers about the curriculum, and details the six learning areas and how these can best be met. Information is also made available on well positioned and attractively set out play room notice boards. Plans of the current linked theme and the week's activities are clearly detailed and presented. Newsletters are produced half termly, which each parent receives, together with a copy of the 'topic web' and an 'activities at home' sheet.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are happy, interested, involved and have good self esteem. They confidently choose activities and show good levels of independence. They ably speak out in small and large groups and listen carefully to staff and each other. Children are eager to try out new activities, and are able to concentrate for long periods. They form good relationships, relate well, are co-operative, well behaved and show concern and respect for others. They are developing an awareness of the wider community.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children have good communication skills. They have a large vocabulary and are confident speakers who engage easily in conversation with adults and other children. They participate eagerly in role play, ably state their views and use a wide range of expressive words. Children enjoy singing rhymes and listening to stories. They understand that print carries meaning. Most children are able to recognise and write their own name, as well as linking sounds to letters. Books are enjoyed and used well.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Mathematics is well integrated into the curriculum and children are introduced to a wide range of resources. Many can count confidently and accurately up to ten, and some beyond. Children are encouraged to practise matching, sorting and counting through everyday play activities, projects and number rhymes. They are challenged to reason, make estimates, explore problems and give explanations. Shape recognition is developing well and children are able to copy simple patterns and sequences.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are enthusiastic and keen to investigate and explore new materials and ideas. They are developing a good knowledge and understanding of their natural and surrounding environment and that of the wider world, through an interesting and wide range of well planned topics and activities. Festivals and different cultures are valued and celebrated. Children talk confidently about events in their lives and have a good awareness of past and present. They are familiar with technology and its use.



## **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children move safely around with confidence, good co-ordination, imagination and control. They show a keen awareness of space and of others. Through well planned topic work and activities children are learning about themselves physically and how their bodies work and perform. They show a good awareness of health and hygiene and understand the importance of keeping healthy. They confidently, with control and competence, use a wide variety of equipment and tools and have good manipulative skills.

## **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children use a wide range of materials to explore colour, texture and shape and to create art work in two and three dimensions, in free play and adult supported activities. They are imaginative and express their ideas and feelings in a variety of ways, which include role play, story telling and movement. Children have a good sense of rhythm and enjoy singing songs and playing musical instruments. They are developing a good awareness of their senses through activities on taste, touch and smell.

**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 weaknesses of any significance to report, but consideration should be given to the following:
- Continue to review and develop the children's observation and assessment system, to further promote children's progress.

*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.*