



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 147548

DfES Number: 583176

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 17/05/2004  
Inspector Name Pauline Nazarkardeh

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Hasmonean Kindergarten  
Setting Address 8-10 Shirehall Lane  
Hendon  
London  
NW4 2PD

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Hasmonean Kindergarten

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Hasmonean Kindergarten  
Address 8-10 Shirehall Lane  
Hendon  
London  
NW4 2PD

## 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

Hasmonean Kindergarten has been registered since 1997. The Kindergarten is situated in an urban part of Barnet, within a residential area, and is registered for 60 children aged 2 to 5 years.

The setting operates on the site of the primary school and provides care and education for Jewish children from the local community and beyond. There are currently 59 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 22 funded 3-year-olds and 29 funded 4-year-olds. Children 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 setting is divided into a Pre-Kindergarten catering for the younger children aged 2 to 3 years of age, mornings only. The main kindergarten caters for the older three and four-year-olds from 08.45 to 15.30 Monday to Friday for 40 weeks a year. There are 14 members of staff working with the children, 10 of whom have relevant child-care qualifications. The unqualified staff are currently undergoing training. The setting implements a key worker system which allocates a specific member of staff to work with each family and the setting has an active and supportive Parent/Teacher Association.

The kindergarten is run by a Board of Governors, which includes the Head Teacher of the Primary School, Head of Kindergarten and Parent/ Staff Governors. Fees paid by the parents fund the setting. The accommodation available to the setting consists of a separate building in the grounds of the Primary School. The younger children are grouped in two separate classrooms and the older children are housed in a large classroom and a parallel smaller classroom. All the children have access to a shared television/quiet room and bathroom facilities. The kindergarten children have access to a purpose built playground and activity centre, which are very well resourced with a safety surface.

### How good is the Day Care?

Hasmonean Kindergarten provides a good standard of care. The staff know the children they care for and ensure individual needs are met. The premises are warm and welcoming for both children and parents. There are a wide range of toys, resources and equipment available and accessible to children.

The staff have an understanding of how to provide a safe environment for children. There are systems in place to ensure the safe arrival and departure of the children. The staff have developed defined areas for activities and they are considering new ways of utilizing all of the available outside space. Although there are risk assessments in place they do not identify what action is needed to reduce or minimize risks to children.

The range and quality of activities offered is good. The staff show an excellent knowledge of individual children's interests and stages of development. They provide interesting opportunities for children to develop and learn. Children's independence and respect for each other is encouraged.

Parents are provided with good information, in the form of policies and procedures, access to children's files, information about the curriculum and topics. Staff spend time exchanging information with parents about their children each day and there are regular times for parent teacher meetings.

Documentation is well organised with established systems in place to record and hold written records. There is a written policy to deal with a situation where a child is uncollected but it does not identify what steps will be taken. The information needed from parents to provide care, which meets each child's individual needs, is in place.

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

Since the last inspection improvements have been made to the groups policies, procedures and record keeping. A key worker system has also been put in place, children and their parents now have access to the key worker especially during the settling in period.

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

- The organisation of the premises to allow children to move between rooms, having access to all equipment.
- Staff are warm and responsive to the children, they follow children's lead, they are interested in what they say and do.
- The range of activities offered are very attractively set out, children make choices from these and develop their own ideas.
- The diversity of the community's race, culture and ability are positively reflected by posters, books, resources and in children's play.

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

- the policy for uncollected children to identify all steps which will be taken.
- risk assessment on the premises identifying action to be taken to minimize identified risks.

### 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	Extend on the policy for uncollected children to identify all steps which will be taken.
6	Conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying action to be taken to minimize identified risks.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Hasmonean Kindergarten offers high quality nursery education where children enjoy learning through a wide range of interesting activities. Children make very good progress in all areas of learning.

Teaching is very good. Staff are calm, gently spoken and the children are happy and co operative. Staffs knowledge of the foundation stage enables them to plan a stimulating and appropriate range of activities. However the assessment and record keeping system is being developed and not all staff show confidence in its use.

All children are encouraged to be independent and demonstrate confident in the way that they select their own activities and concentrate on their learning for good periods of time. Group activities and one to one activities work well in enhancing and extending children's knowledge.

Leadership and management are very good. Success of the setting is due to the well structured management system and an effective staff team who work well together. Staff share a good understanding of early years practice and are committed to developing the quality of the provision through ongoing evaluation and training.

Partnerships with parents are very good. Parent's are well informed about the curriculum and their children's achievements which allows them to support and extend their children's learning. They openly express satisfaction with the service they receive.

### What is being done well?

- Children's behaviour is very good they listen well and contribute to discussions with confidence.
- Good use is made of the playrooms and the outside play area to provide opportunities for children to choose and develop their independence.
- The quality of interaction between the staff and children is very good. Children are encouraged to problem solve and to think things through.
- Strong leadership and the staff's enthusiasm for training and putting new ideas into action ensures children are offered a rich learning environment.
- Parents have opportunities to exchange information about their children's progress with staff, they are encouraged to be involved in their children's learning and are informed of topics and activities.

### What needs to be improved?

- the system for recording and assessing children's development.

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

Very good improvements have been made since the last inspection. Changes have been made to the structure of circle and story times to ensure that children learn at their pace and do not lose concentration. Children are also encouraged to question how and why things happen. Assessments now identify future plans for children and these plans are regularly monitored and reviewed.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. Children are well behaved, they negotiate, take turns and share. When children are having problems other children are very quick to give advice for a way forward. The children are very in control of their environment, they select their own play materials and resources to support their activities. They are motivated and enthusiastic learner's who settle into the kindergarten routine well.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

The programme for communication language and literacy is very good. The children are confident communicators, especially during whole group activities. Children enjoy listening to stories and use books independently. Home made books with photographs and children's writing increases children's interest in text. Children are developing their written skills well and older children can write their own names.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

The children's progress in mathematical development is very good. They can count reliably to ten and beyond for some older children. They use mathematical language to appropriately describe shape and size, they are also learning to add and subtract during activities such as threading beads. They are learning to recognise written numbers and their values and enjoy activities where they can spot mistakes to number values.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in this area of learning. They talk about themselves and remember past events. They learn about people living in the community, having regular visitors and trips out to local areas of interest. Children have opportunities to build with a range of construction equipment. There are many opportunities for children to learn about every day technology such as computers, tape recorders and microscopes.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

The children are making very good progress towards achieving the early learning for their physical development. They move confidently, imaginatively and safely. They are developing increasing control over their bodies and they have good opportunities to travel around, over, under and through balancing and climbing equipment. In general they show a good awareness of space and others and they use a range of large and small equipment with increasing skill.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
------------	-----------

Children make very good progress within the programme for creative development. They express their ideas freely through a range of activities, including; movement to music, painting, a variety of craft activities and singing. Their drama activities allow them to act out stories. Many activities offer opportunities for children to role play, such as watering the plants, using the travel agents and the florist.

**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:*

- Point for Consideration
- Continue to develop the system for recording and assessing children's development, ensuring that staff are confident in their use of the system.

*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.*