



**Office for Standards  
in Education**

## **COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT**

URN 322340

**DfES Number:** 521604

### **INSPECTION DETAILS**

Inspection Date      17/08/2004  
Inspector Name      Margaret Patricia Mellor

### **SETTING DETAILS**

Day Care Type      Full Day Care  
Setting Name      Rompers Day Nursery  
Setting Address      2 Allerton Drive  
                         Liverpool  
                         Merseyside  
                         L18 6HJ

### **REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS**

Name                      Mrs Catherine Flynn

## 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

Rompers Day Nursery have been established since 1992. They are privately run and owned by Catherine Flynn who is a co manager and has a Certificate in Education. They are located in a residential area of Allerton and operate in a large converted detached house. They are in close proximity to Calderstones Park and many other local amenities. They primarily serve children and their families living in and around the local community.

Children enrolled are aged from 8 months to 4 years. Currently there are 63 children on register who are attending various full or part time sessions. On the day of the inspection 30 children are present. They are providing 20 funded places for 3 and 4 year olds.

The nursery provides an all year round service with the exception of bank holidays and a week at Christmas. They are open Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 17:30 hours. Children are being cared for with their peers in 4 age related groups. They have shared use of a soft play and creative rooms. There is an attractive garden for children's outdoor play and a designated area with sensory equipment for the babies.

The co-manager has an HNC in Childhood Studies and NVQ3 Award in Childcare. There is a named deputy, third in charge and a staff complement of 15 nursery nurses. All staff are qualified to either NVQ3 or NVQ2 standard and 10 have a First Aid certificate. Ancillary support staff are employed for preparing children's meals, general maintenance and periodic heavy duty cleaning.

The nursery are a Member of the National Day Nursery Association and are working toward their Quality Counts Award. They network with the Liverpool Early Years Development Childcare Partnership and attend cluster meetings. Early years teacher advisor input supports with the children's educational programme. Activities are planned around the foundation stage stepping stone early learning goals. Weekly story time sessions with a teacher are further supporting children's curriculum activities.

### **How good is the Day Care?**

Rompers Day Nursery provides satisfactory care for children. All staff are qualified in early years work and training opportunities are good. Children are grouped appropriately with their peers and have a named keyworker who has main responsibility for their care, monitoring progress and sharing information with parents. All the daily records are in place and accurate with some review of the behaviour incident records needed.

The premises are secure and all safety features are in place. Staff pay much attention to the under 2s sleeping arrangements. They understand health procedures such as administering children's first aid and have accessed relevant training. They are aware that regard for privacy needs to be improved when intimate care is being provided. Meals are nutritious and prepared from fresh foods with many opportunities for children to experience different tastes and textures. Staff are aware of child protection issues and the steps to take to safeguard children.

The environment is warm and welcoming. A wealth of photographs of children's exploits are displayed throughout fostering their self esteem. Activities are enhancing children's physical development, creativity and imagination. Children are interested in the available toys and having much fun whilst learning through play. All children are joining in the days activities and their understanding of others cultures is being encouraged. However resources reflecting positive images and staffs understanding of using the persona doll need to be improved. Staff are good role models and giving children much encouragement when they are behaving well.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents are given a prospectus about the nursery's aims and activities at the outset. The Open Door policy is effective and there is good exchanging of information about children. Newsletters and notice boards are keeping them up to date about activities. Parents are happy with children's care, progress and play.

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

There are no actions of the previous inspection report.

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

- The children are grouped appropriately with their peers. They have a named keyworker who has main responsibility for their care, monitoring progress and sharing information with parents. Continuity and consistent care of children is being positively encouraged.
- The activities are stimulating and planned well. Children are enjoying adventure activities in the garden, role playing and having regular story times fostering their physical skills, imagination and creativity. Children are interested in the available toys and having much fun whilst learning through play.
- The environment is welcoming and photographs of children's exploits

displayed throughout are fostering their self esteem and sense of belonging. Children are settled and content.

- The premises are secure and staff pay much attention to the under 2's sleeping arrangements and are recording 10 minute checks on sleep charts. They understand health procedures such as administering first aid to children and have accessed Sudden Infant Cot Death Syndrome training.
- The cook mainly prepares fresh foods and meals and snacks are varied and nutritious. Children's healthy eating is being positively encouraged as well as many opportunities to experience different tastes and textures.
- The staff are good role models and giving much encouragement when children are behaving well such as praise, stickers and additional responsibilities as rewards. Children are confident and the under 2's comfortable with their carers.
- Partnership with parents is good and there is much exchanging of information about children. Under 2's day sheets, discussion and regular open meetings are keeping parents well informed about children, their activities, routines and progress.

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

- the resources reflecting positive images of gender and disability
- the staffs understanding of using the persona doll
- the records detailing incidents of physical restraint

#### **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
9	Improve the range of positive image resources that further celebrate

	diversity and discourage stereotyping.
9	Take steps to develop staffs understanding of using the persona doll with children.
11	Introduce a system to record any incident of physical restraint

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Rompers Day Nursery is a good quality provision and children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. They are making very good progress in personal social and emotional skills, Communication, language and literacy, mathematical development and physical development.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff enthusiastically motivate the children and provide good support during planned and practical activities. They have a good relationship with the children and parents. Staff use planning to provide a wide range of interesting and challenging activities, focused on the six areas of learning. However, short-term plans do not identify how children are grouped and staff deployment. Appropriate assessment methods are used to identify the children's progress and activities are evaluated. The children's environment is welcoming and stimulating, although there is not a comfortable rest area for children to freely access and the organisation of some resources does not enable the children to spontaneously use their imagination.

The leadership and management of the provision is generally good. There is a well structured management system that effectively supports staff. Staff are encouraged to access courses, and regular staff meetings and appraisal identify their training needs. The quality of the provision is regularly reviewed and steps are taken to address identified weaknesses. The point for consideration at the last inspection has been met.

The partnership with parents and carers is generally good. Information is shared informally through daily discussion and parents are welcome into the nursery at any time. Parent evenings provide opportunity for parents to contribute ideas. Written activity plans are displayed, along with many photographs of the children playing and on outings. Parents may have access to the children's written progress reports and take these home when children leave.

### What is being done well?

- Children are developing very good early literacy skills. They use writing for a variety of purposes and recognise simple words. The environment is rich in print to help children's reading skills.
- Children's self-confidence and self-esteem is being encouraged. Children are inquisitive and eager to try new activities. They confidently interact, speak in a group and initiate conversations.
- Children are learning to have strong independence skills. Staff encourage children to be responsible for small tasks and they competently tidy away, attend to personal hygiene and help themselves at meal times.

- Staff provide many valuable opportunities for children to develop their mathematical skills. They use counting and calculation during practical activities and learn about quantity, size, shape and position during planned activities. Counting rhymes help children to recognise numerals and count backwards.
- Children's physical skills are developing well. They have good opportunities to exercise outdoors and indoors and they skilfully use climbing equipment and wheeled toys.

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

- the play space to be evaluated and organised so children may relax whilst looking at books and rest if necessary
- the children's own representation, through artwork, painting and drawing, of their thoughts and ideas
- short-term plans to identify how children are grouped, the resources to be used and staff deployed.

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

Generally good progress has been made since the last inspection.

The nursery was asked to extend the use of the new computer and provide software which supports the children's learning and ensure that staff are trained. The computer is now timetabled into the curriculum and there is some educational software. Staff receive support from an IT teacher who provides on-going training to new staff.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident and forming good relationships with adults and other children. Staff know the children well and respond to their needs, fostering their self-confidence and self-esteem. Children have good concentration and are motivated to learn. They are developing high levels of personal independence and self-care. They take the initiative to help tidy away, pour their own drinks and self-serve at lunchtime. Their behaviour is managed well, in a positive environment.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children confidently use language for communication. They interact with staff, initiate conversation and negotiate with each other. They listen with interest to stories and staff introduce new words such as "drizzle" when pouring icing sugar on biscuits. Opportunities are provided for children to practise their writing skills and many write their name and simple words. They learn that print carries meaning through the wealth of written captions and sentences throughout the nursery.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Displayed numbers and a number line help children to identify numerals. They enjoy number rhymes such as 10 Green Bottles and successfully position numerals in the correct order. Children learn about measure and use mathematical language as they fill different size containers with rice, using large and small spoons. During practical activities children use calculation as they count the number of chairs required for the number of children present.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

The outdoor area is creatively organised and used well for children to observe and explore. They study changes to plants and examine living things. They visit the local park to collect leaves and feed the ducks. Staff use recycled resources for construction and building. Children have regular access to a computer to help learn about information and communication technology. There are some resources to encourage children's awareness of different cultures and beliefs.



## **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children are learning to confidently move with control and co-ordination as they use a good range of resources in the outdoor play area. Their climbing skills are challenged on the indoor climbing wall and in the soft play area. Children are developing good manipulative skills and handle a variety of tools and materials. They competently use appropriate cutlery at snack time and pour their own drinks with good control. Planned topics help children to learn about health and bodily awareness.

## **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Generally Good

Staff provide many opportunities for children to explore and choose from a range of media, such as collage, sticking, painting, sand and water to enhance their senses. Children enjoy singing simple songs from memory and have access to a variety of musical instruments. Planned role-play enables children to use their imagination, although the lack of free access to resources hinders spontaneity. Children's artwork is sometimes displayed. However, templates are often adult directed.

**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**

- the organisation of the play space, to provide a comfortable area where children may relax to read books and rest
- the representation of the children's own thoughts and ideas through paintings and artwork
- short term plans to identify how children are grouped, and staff deployed.

*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.*