



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY254963

DfES Number: 548391

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	30/06/2004
Inspector Name	Anne Gunston

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Lollipops
Setting Address	The Methodist Church Lion Green Haslemere Surrey GU27 1PF

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Elizabeth Ann Lyons
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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

Lollipops Nursery is privately owned and managed; it has been registered since 2003 and serves the local community. It operates from first floor rooms of the Methodist Church Hall in Haslemere. Accommodation consists of a hall for play, an additional room used for quiet activities or discussion with parents plus adjacent kitchen and toilet facilities. The group do not have access to a secure outside play area; they make use of local parks and community facilities.

Sessional care is provided for 26 children from 2 to 5 years on Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions operate from 09:00 until 12:00 with a longer session offered on a Wednesday until 13:00 for children who are in receipt of funding for nursery education. There are currently 22 children on roll; this includes 13, 3-year-olds and 8, 4-year-olds who are in receipt of funding. The nursery supports children who have special needs or who may have English as an additional language.

There are currently five staff employed to work with the children on a full and part time basis. More than half of these hold relevant child care qualifications; one staff member is currently working towards a qualification in early years. The nursery receives support from the Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership and is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Lollipops Nursery provide a good standard of care for children. There is clear management; high ratios of qualified staff are in place, all of whom show commitment to children in their care. However systems for staff's induction and appraisal are not yet in place. Space is organised well and an extensive range of resources are displayed effectively. Staff provide a very welcoming environment for children and parents. Most essential documentation is in place, although some lacks detail.

Hygiene standards throughout the nursery are good, and children's dietary needs

are well catered for. Staff are vigilant in ensuring children's safety on a daily basis, however overall assessment of risks associated with the operation of nursery are not completed. There are satisfactory child protection procedures in place. The owner and staff are pro-active in ensuring that children with special needs are fully included in all nursery activities.

Staff provide a well balanced range of interesting activities for children, which cover all areas of learning. They have an in-depth knowledge of children's individual needs and a clear understanding of how to ensure that all children are treated equally. Children's behaviour is managed effectively at all times, staff work well together and with parents to ensure a consistent approach.

Positive relationships are formed with parents, staff work closely with them to ensure that children settle confidently and quickly into nursery.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- Staff plan and organise each session to incorporate free play, physical and creative activities plus time allotted for children to work with their dedicated key worker. All staff interact well with children, prompting and questioning them to help each child make progress.
- Staff greet children by name on arrival and display children's artwork at their own height so they can recognise and be proud of their achievements. Children have plenty of space to move round freely and safely with good access to all necessary facilities.
- Toys and equipment are well used by staff to provide many activities that interest and stimulate children. Resources are well maintained and plentiful in number to ensure that all children may take part in activities of their choice. Staff provide children with access to resources which reflect diversity in our society in order raise their awareness of other cultures and the wider world.
- Staff always remain calm and unflustered; they discuss unwanted behaviour sensitively with children to ensure they fully understand what is expected of them. Staff show children that good behaviour brings its rewards, resulting in them behaving well and showing consideration for others.
- Staff share information with parents on a daily basis; parents are kept well informed of topics and activities that the children will be participating in and are made fully aware of nursery policies. The nursery environment is welcoming; parents are encouraged to become involved by means of a parent rota or sharing their own skills and interests with the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedures for completion of regular risk assessments
- the systems for induction and appraisal of staff
- recording of all visitors to the premises
- the complaints procedure with regard to the role of Ofsted.

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	Improve procedures for induction and appraisal of staff to ensure all fully understand nursery policies.
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?

Lollipops Nursery offers acceptable provision and is of high quality. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff understand how children learn and use the curriculum guidance for the foundation stage when planning a broad curriculum together. All use good questioning skills and show clear understanding of what the children can be expected to learn from activities. Plans link closely to the early learning goals and indicate how every aspect of nursery's routine is used to enable children to make progress. Staff manage children's behaviour well. Good support is given to children with special needs or who have English as an additional language. Assessments of activities and observations of children do not fully show what is needed to enable individual children to make progress.

Leadership and management is very good. The owner is able to monitor the quality of care and education offered to children, she has daily control of the setting and works closely with staff. She values the skills and experience of her staff team and is well supported by them. She acts promptly to improve the quality of education provided and works hard to create clear, concise plans, policies and procedures for the nursery. She makes good use of support available to her, for example from the early years advisor. An appraisal system is not yet in place to be able to effectively identify strengths or weaknesses in staff's performance.

The partnership with parents and carers is generally good. Parents feel happy to discuss any concerns they have with all staff. They are provided with good information on themes and pre-school routines; there are opportunities for parents to discuss their child with staff in a confidential setting. Channels of communication between parents and nursery are currently informal and do not focus on the child's progress towards the early learning goals.

What is being done well?

- Children show a great deal of interest in books. They enjoy reading and have a secure understanding of how to use books as a source of information and pleasure, often sharing this experience with other children, for example, children sit companionably in the book corner quietly reading in groups of two or three pointing to characters which interest them and explaining the content to their friends. Staff encourage this interest by setting aside dedicated time each session where all children are asked to sit quietly and select a book.
- Staff organise resources and equipment extremely well which enables children to become independent and confident in their own abilities, for example, the role play area adapts well to become a travel agent where children make use of travel brochures, calculators, tills, writing materials and telephones to book holidays. Children are fully involved and express good

imagination as they discuss where they would like to go, who they wish to go with, what they may need to take and how much it is likely to cost.

- Children are able to work co-operatively together and need little intervention from staff in monitoring behaviour. They know that their opinions will be taken into consideration. At registration time they sit still and listen attentively to other children and staff and give each other time to finish speaking. When using the computer all children show thought and care for each other, they take turns willingly. Older children are happy to share their knowledge, skills and experience with younger ones - they explain the programme and demonstrate use of the mouse.
- Staff have prepared this spacious hall well. They use colourful dividers to create dedicated areas for activities such as messy play and the quiet book corner enabling children to take part in these without interruption. They make good use of the space to develop children's spatial awareness and physical skills.

What needs to be improved?

- assessments of children's progress to indicate the next step for individual children
- short term planning in order that this shows how activities will be adapted for individual children
- parents' involvement in their child's progress and achievements towards the early learning goals.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident and self-assured yet are able to show consideration and care for others; they develop good relationships with other children and adults. They have a great deal of personal independence and are making informed choices about their play. Children show high levels of concentration and are keen to play an active part in their learning. They are behaving well and demonstrate a clear understanding of right and wrong.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children spoken language is well developed; they speak clearly and confidently to other children and adults. Children listen attentively, staff effectively question them to encourage them to think and express their wishes. Children can link sounds to letters well and are developing a wide vocabulary. They show a keen interest in books and enjoy stories. They are becoming confident writers, they frequently attempt writing during role play and write well formed letters at every opportunity.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children show an interest in numbers and counting; they use number language comfortably in their play and are able to count accurately up to 10. They are involved in a broad range of activities which encourage them to solve problems, recreate patterns and compare size or shape. Children show a developing understanding of addition and subtraction as staff take every opportunity to introduce this concept into planned and unplanned activities.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident in discussion of past and present events in their lives and those of people important to them. They gain an increasing understanding of where they live and the wider world. They have access to a good range of activities and resources which encourage them to explore and investigate how objects are made and the purpose of tools. Their knowledge of information technology is secure; many children use the computer independently and with increasing skill.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children demonstrate a good sense of space; they always show awareness of others around them. They move confidently and safely during physical activities and throughout all of their play. Children are skilled at using a good range of large and small equipment. They respond enthusiastically during music and movement, and demonstrate a great deal of control over their bodies. Children learn about the importance of keeping healthy; they recognise what they need to do in order to keep fit and well.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children have many opportunities to use their senses and explore a varied range of materials, both natural and man-made. They show a great deal of interest in the sounds of musical instruments and explore how sounds can change. Children have a good repertoire of songs and rhymes and are enthusiastic in music and movement activities. They express themselves appropriately at all times, particularly in role play or when creating models or artwork, using a good selection of resources.

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 improving the following:
- the short term plans and assessments so that they clearly indicate what is needed to enable all children to gain the most from activities
- parental involvement to ensure they can share what they know and become involved in planning the next steps in their child's learning.

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.