



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127541

DfES Number: 521481

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/03/2004
Inspector Name Vanessa Wood

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Shorne Village Pre-School
Setting Address Village Hall, The Street
Shorne
Gravesend
Kent
DA12 3EA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Little Angels Nurseries (Kent) LLP
OC305619

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Little Angels Nurseries (Kent) LLP
Address Guild Theatre
Vale Road, Northfleet
Gravesend
Kent
DA11 8BZ

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

Shorne Village Pre-School is a privately run setting, which first opened approximately 20 years ago.

The pre-school is situated in Shorne, close to the large town of Gravesend and caters for children from the immediate vicinity and surrounding area. The children come from a variety of social, cultural and economic backgrounds.

The pre-school operates within a modern hall and has the use of a small hall and entrance area.

The pre-school is open for four mornings a week from 09.15 to 11.45 and for two afternoon sessions. These sessions are planned to support children in receipt of nursery funding.

There are currently fifty three children on roll, this includes twelve funded three year olds and eleven funded four years olds. There are currently no children with identified special educational needs. They have three children who have English as an additional language.

There are currently six members of staff who work with the children on a rota basis, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The provision at Shorne Village Pre School is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is good overall. Staff have a good understanding of the foundation stage and plan practical activities that challenge all children. Staff provide an attractive environment that encourages children to experiment and use their imaginations. They are very skilful in using good questioning techniques to motivate children and encourage learning. Staff are good role models for children and help children to build warm, trusting relationships. Children are very well behaved.

Staff are aware that some planning needs to be reviewed and that improvement is needed in the organisation of some focused activities to increase children's independence.

Leadership and management of the group is strong. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities. They work well together and support each other within the team. Staff constantly review their practice and attend courses to up date their knowledge.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are given regular information about the group and details of topics and activities. They are provided with information about their children's progress in the early learning goals. Parents are given the opportunity to share information about their child before starting at the group in order to give staff a good understanding of the children they will be working with. Staff value parents views.

What is being done well?

- Staff form good relationships with children and encourage them to develop confidence and self esteem.
- Staff provide a stimulating environment which helps promote children's learning.
- Partnership with parents is very successful. Staff foster good relationships with parents and all information is shared.
- Leadership of the setting is strong and staff have a clear understanding of their responsibilities.

What needs to be improved?

- the use of observations of children's progress to inform future planning

- the short term plans to ensure these clearly cover the early learning goals
- the opportunity for children to be independent during focused activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Planning of long and medium term plans is now in place. Observations of children's progress is now being recorded. Planning includes all the early learning goals.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are happy, confident and well motivated. They have a positive approach to learning and show good levels of concentration. Children form good relationships with adults and their peers. They share resources and ideas and recognise the needs of others. Children behave well.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children speak confidently and enjoy relating significant events to friends and staff. Children listen attentively to stories and take delight in taking part in finishing the end of sentences and predicting the ending. Children recognise their names and more able children are beginning to write their own name. Children are given plenty of opportunity to experience writing during focused and free play activities.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's understanding of number is reinforced during practical and social activities. Children are given the opportunity to count by rote and to recognise numbers in large group activities. Children confidently use numbers all the time during play. Children show that they understand measure and shape and can use simple calculations.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Conversations with staff during activities encourage children to understand about the outside world, their families and the community they live in. There are occasional visits from local people to enhance the topic being covered. Children are provided with a range of materials and construction activities which encourage their design and making skills.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

No outside space is available but staff make good use of indoor facilities to ensure children have every opportunity to develop their gross motor skills. These activities are well planned. Children learn about music through using musical instruments and listening to the piano. They also take part in singing and dance activities. Children have access to a variety of small tools and their fine motor skills are developing well.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children explore colour and texture using a range of painting and collage techniques. Staff provide children with a range of role play resources which give children the opportunity to use their imagination and express and communicate their ideas.

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

- Continue to develop observations on children's progress and ensure this is used to inform future planning.
- Improve short term plans so that learning intentions are clear and cover the six early learning goals.
- Increase the opportunity for children to have independence during focused activities.

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.