



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 228975

DfES Number: 581298

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 04/02/2003
Inspector Name Susan Rogers

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name The Old Fire Station Childrens Nursery
Setting Address 69 Albion Street
Birmingham
West Midlands
B1 3EA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Denise (corr to Mrs Siviter ad Goodchild

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name
Address

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

The Old Fire Station Children's Nursery was registered in 1998. It is situated in the Jewellery Quarter in Hockley, Birmingham, and is registered to care for 54 children under five years of age. The nursery caters for children aged six weeks, to five years. There are currently 50 children on roll. This includes 7 three year olds and 4 four year olds who receive funding. The nursery is open from 7:30 am to 6:30 pm five days per week It is closed at bank holidays and for one week over the Christmas period. The setting was previously a fire station which has been converted to provide five care rooms in the baby unit and four care rooms in the pre-school and toddler unit. There is also a large indoor play area, which all of the children are able to use. In addition there are children's toilets, staff area and nappy changing area. A kitchen is on site. There is no out door play area. The nursery can be accessed by the Metro and bus services from Sandwell and Birmingham City Centre. There are 14 care staff employed, one chef and a housekeeper. Ten of the care staff have a relevant child care qualification, with the remaining staff working towards a child care qualification. The nursery receives support from a teacher mentor for the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership(EYDCP).

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Children are making generally good progress towards the Early Learning Goals, they demonstrate caring attitudes towards each other, communicate well, and are confident. Assessment of children is effective, and is used to plan, and provide appropriate activities. Children with special needs have individual learning plans, and are encouraged to participate in all the activities. Teaching styles are effective with levels of commitment to the children demonstrated through full participation in current early years training, and good knowledge of the Early Learning Goals. There is a clear management structure in place, with staff understanding their current roles. Specific staff skills and interests are developed, through training and areas of responsibility. Good organisation and forward preparation of activities, are evident. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress. There are opportunities for child observations and concerns to be discussed. Staff are friendly and are knowledgeable of individual children's needs

What is being done well?

Children's personal social and emotional development is very good. They are confident and caring towards others. Communication skills are very good children are able to use more complex and appropriate language. Most of the activities hold the interest of the children and provide them with challenges that give scope for further teaching opportunities. Provision for special educational needs is well structured, and relates well to the needs of the individual child. Planning is detailed providing a structure that covers most of the early learning goals.

What needs to be improved?

Greater opportunities are needed for physical outdoor play. Include more music, dance and singing activities. More opportunities for number work to be included in play activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

There has been very good progress since the last inspection, and positive strengths are demonstrated in managing children's challenging behaviour. Children are caring towards each other, and behave well and with confidence. Staff attend training courses that are linked to the early learning goals, and this reflects in the detailed planning of the curriculum and in the delivery of directed activities. Children are confident in their use of appropriate and more extensive language, communicating well with each other and with adults.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Provision for personal and social development are very good. The children are well behaved, independent and confident. The expectations of children's behaviour is appropriate, and most of the activities ensure that children remain interested. Children have caring relationships with each other, and relate well to the staff.	
COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	
Judgement:	Very Good
Provision for communication, language and literacy are very good. Children are encouraged to communicate in a confident way using language which is both expansive and appropriate. Children are taught to read their names and encouraged that writing is a tool that can be used in everyday activities. Children enjoy books and story telling through availability of resources, and varied interesting activities.	
MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Provision for mathematics is generally good. Children have good number recognition, and are encouraged to count from 1- 10 through a variety of activities. Children use mathematical language through games and story time, and instigate conversations where they can use this knowledge. There are limited opportunities however, to promote the more creative use of mathematics during every day activities.	
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD	
Judgement:	Generally Good
The programme for knowledge and understanding of the world is generally good. Children do have access to, and are confident in using technology. A variety of experiences are used to give children an understanding of themselves and the world around them. There are some missed opportunities for more expansive explanations of everyday objects and events.	
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children's physical development is generally good. There is good indoor space available for children to participate in using climbing equipment, and wheeled toys. However this area is only available during specific times, and there are limited opportunities for children to participate in out door activities. Children move with confidence are well co-ordinated developing their physical skills through a variety of activities. Most of these activities are of interest to the children.	
CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good

The programme for creative development is generally good. There is evidence of a variety of resources being used to enable children to express their ideas. Activities are planned to enable children to gain satisfaction through their creative skills. Spontaneous music appreciation is encouraged, however there are limited opportunities where this is included in the curriculum.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately:

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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

Create greater opportunities for children to relate to number and how it can be used in everyday activities. Include the opportunity for children to experience music through a variety of activities.