



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 314630

DfES Number: 582162

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	05/11/2004
Inspector Name	Rosemary Beyer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Fountain House Farm Day Nursery
Setting Address	Fountain House Farm Watton Driffield YO25 9HY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mr Anthony Neil Martinson
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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

Fountain House Farm Day Nursery has been registered since February 1997. The privately owned facility is located in converted farm buildings half way between Driffild and Beverley, and serves both towns and the surrounding rural area. The nursery has a purpose built baby unit and uses the training room for the Out of School (OOS) group called 'The Farm'. Other children have the use of the large main room, a small room behind this and the passage way which has been adapted for the computers. The children also have access to a secure outside area next to the main room and the field with fixed play equipment. In addition to this the OOS children have the use of Go Karts in the farmyard.

Fifteen staff are employed, twelve working directly with the children, most are qualified at least to Level 2 or Level 3 and are experienced, but still committed to on-going training to develop their knowledge and practice. Currently 33 children attend the OOS and 55 the nursery, of these 19 are funded, 12 three-year olds and 7 four-year olds. There are currently no children with special needs in the setting although procedures are in place to support them in line with the Code of Practice, and currently no children with English as an additional language are being cared for.

The day nursery has been awarded Investors in People. Close contact is maintained with the local schools. Support is received from the Early Years staff through the EYDCP.

How good is the Day Care?

Fountain Farm Day Nursery provides good quality care for all the children who attend. The well qualified and experienced staff provide good support for their learning and play.

The staff ensure the premises are safe both inside and out, and provide the children with opportunities to learn about safety, good hygiene and health. There are policies in place to ensure all children are protected and those with special needs included.

There is a wide range of toys, activities and equipment to meet the learning needs of all the children. The programme for 2-5 year olds is adapted to suit their development and covers all the Foundation Stage areas of learning. The Out of School children are able to make suggestions for their own programme of activities, and the babies are provided with a suitable range of stimulating toys and equipment.

Staff have experience of caring for children with special needs and with English as an additional language, and systems are in place to support them. They ensure all children and families feel welcome and included.

Parents are very satisfied with the care and support their children receive. They like the friendly atmosphere and feel included in their care and education. Staff ensure parents are able to access the information they provide. It is of good quality and easy to understand.

Most policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safe and efficient management of the nursery. Staff are well supported by the management through appraisals and through encouragement to undertake training to further their development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

not applicable

What is being done well?

- The facility provides a wide range of activities for all the children which takes account of their age and stage of development. The OOS children are encouraged to make suggestions which support their interests, in addition to the planned programme. Staff are aware of the need to provide challenge for the more able children, while supporting and encouraging those who are less able.
- Staff have good relationships with the children, they get to know each other well and enjoy being together. Some of the children in the OOS were cared for when younger so know the facility well. Most children are settled, leaving carers without concern but staff deal sensitively and patiently with those new to the day nursery.
- The staff meet the individual needs of the children, supporting their emotional, social and educational development through the stimulating, varied programme they provide. They encourage children to develop independence and through contact with the school staff they ensure children are confident and comfortable when starting school.
- The children behave well, responding to guidance and praise, taking part in activities and clearing up afterwards. Clear rules of behaviour are available for the children, with the older ones providing good role models for the younger. They know they are expected to share, take turns and co-operate, such as when using the sand tray or the computer. The babies are cared for in a positive environment with praise and encouragement.

- Relationships with parents are very good, they work with staff to ensure the children's needs are met, keeping them informed of anything which may affect the child during his or her time in the day nursery or out of school, or of any achievements made at home.
- Children are able to make suggestions for activities in the out of school with staff willing to amend the proposed programme to take account of children's wishes or interests wherever possible.

What needs to be improved?

- the provision of an incident record

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
11	Keep a record of any incident of physical intervention and share with parents.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Fountain Farm Day Nursery provides very good quality nursery education, where children are making very good progress, in all the areas of learning, towards the early learning goals. Staff have a very good understanding of the Foundation Stage, and through their planning ensure all the areas of learning are covered and activities provide challenge. The quality of teaching is very good, with staff monitoring and observing children's progress to support their further learning and development.

The nursery has a good range of resources and equipment available, many of which the children can access themselves. Staff encourage them in their play and learning, providing a positive and stimulating environment.

Systems are in place for children with special needs which reflect the Code of Practice, and staff have experience of supporting children and their families to enable them to develop and learn. Children with English as an additional language are welcome and systems are in place to support them, although no children are attending at present

The leadership and management of the nursery is very good. The staff work effectively as a team, with the group benefiting from their individual skills and interests. They are encouraged to undertake training to further their personal development.

Partnerships with parents are very good and help the children to progress. Information for parents about the Foundation Stage is clear, with topic and activity planning available for them. Parental support is valued by staff, who ensure the parents have regular opportunities to speak to key workers to discuss achievements or concerns. Ideas for activities to be undertaken at home are provided to support less able children.

What is being done well?

- Children's behaviour is very good. Staff have high expectations and encourage children's independence, confidence and concentration. The children support each other and older children provide good role models. They are very considerate of each other.
- Staff work well together, providing a positive environment in which children feel valued and settled. They use the premises and the outside area well, to provide access to a range of different activities during the day. Areas of the building are designated for particular activities which helps the children become familiar with the setting and develop confidence.
- Relationships with parents are very good. Information about the activities provided is available and parents feel involved in the child's learning. The key

worker system helps to develop good communication, enabling parents to raise concerns or discuss achievements.

- The staff provide a wide range of learning opportunities for the children which cover all areas, and take account of the children's individual needs or interests. They are aware of the need to provide sufficient challenge for all children whatever their ability.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunities for children to write their names correctly in everyday activities by using their name labels
- the opportunities for children to use number in everyday activities
- the opportunities for children to develop independence at meal times by pouring their own drinks or serving themselves

What has improved since the last inspection?

Very good progress has been made in the grouping of children to ensure they are able to enjoy suitable activities with sufficient challenge, concentrate, develop their initiative and their independence.

Observation and assessment have been improved and are used to guide planning for the future.

Progress has been made in the recognition of names, and the use of lower and upper case letters.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident and are encouraged to become independent in most areas and take responsibility for their personal care. They are settled, secure and behave very well. They take turns, negotiate and are considerate of each other, e.g. ensuring fire doors do not cause injury when going through them. They relate positively to each other and the adults present, are keen to learn, interested in the activities provided, and confidently ask for help or other things to do.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

The children are keen to engage in conversation with each other, members of staff or visitors. They listen well and respond to guidance or questions. They are confident in expressing their feelings through role play and discussion. They enjoy stories, use books correctly and anticipate what will happen. They are starting to use writing in their games, most can recognise their own names, however they are not sufficiently developing their confidence in writing their names correctly.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children use counting in song and rhyme time and some general activities, which helps their understanding of number. Most count up to 10 and recognise numbers up to 10. They are developing mathematical language such as large and small. Most children can recognise simple shapes and describe the differences between them. They use counting when playing and doing craft work however they are not further developing their skills through use of number in everyday activities such as drink time.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

The children are interested in the natural world, they enjoyed the harvest topic and like to visit the farm animals. They are interested in the seasons and the weather, and growing things such as cress and sunflowers. They are aware that families are different, enjoy talking about their own background and the local community. Activities are used to widen their knowledge of the world, different cultures and customs. The children enjoy using the computer and other programmable toys.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are skilful when doing exercise, particularly enjoying the skipping ropes and ribbons outside. They are learning to balance on the large equipment and games outside. They are developing their fine motor skills using a range of tools including art and craft tools, the computer mouse, mark making writing implements and when using malleable materials such as play dough. They are interested in their bodies, and changes due to exercise and are aware of the need to eat healthily.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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The children are able to use their imaginations in role play activities such as the home corner, with puppets or floor games. They enjoy making models, painting and drawing, particularly the life drawing of vegetables and are aware of the different colours and shapes. They enjoy singing and music making, with a good range of instruments and are able to keep time to the music. They talk about their likes and dislikes, such as spiders and the syringe paintings.

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 opportunities for children to develop independence through involvement in mealtimes
- the opportunities for children to use their name labels during activities to support their writing
- the opportunities for children to use mathematics and counting in everyday 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.

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.