



**Office for Standards  
in Education**

## **COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT**

**URN** 106355

**DfES Number:** 515358

### **INSPECTION DETAILS**

Inspection Date 16/07/2004

Inspector Name Julie Neal

### **SETTING DETAILS**

Day Care Type Full Day Care

Setting Name Mayfield Kindergarten

Setting Address 38 St. Brannocks Road  
Ilfracombe  
Devon  
EX34 8EQ

### **REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS**

Name Mrs Gill Livings

## 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

Mayfield Kindergarten is a privately owned day nursery situated in Ilfracombe, North Devon. It was an established nursery, taken over, refurbished and re-opened by its current owner in January 2000. The nursery is set in a converted Victorian House, with care being provided in several rooms over two floors. There is an enclosed garden for outdoor play.

The provision is registered to provide care for 34 children under eight, and accepts all ages including babies. Currently there are 76 children on the roll, 36 of whom are funded three- and four-year-olds. There are no children attending at present with special educational needs, or for whom English is an additional language.

There are seven members of staff, five of whom (including the proprietor) have appropriate qualifications, and another is working towards this. The nursery is open from 08:00 until 17:00 Monday to Friday all year round. Overnight care is not provided.

### How good is the Day Care?

Mayfield Kindergarten provides good quality care for children. The setting is welcoming and child friendly, with space used well to support the needs of different ages and abilities. The staff team are well qualified, they demonstrate knowledge of the setting's operational plan and implement its procedures well.

Children take part in a good range of activities that encourage individual learning and development. These are age appropriate and suitably challenging, and supported by an extensive range of resources. Toys and equipment are generally easily accessible to children, and resources are rotated to ensure interest. Staff interactions with children are good, they use language and gestures well to encourage communication. They make good observations and assessments of individual children that are used effectively in planning their next steps. Behaviour is managed well, with staff demonstrating a calm and consistent approach and

developing good relationships with children. They are very positive and encouraging, and implement strategies that are clear and age appropriate. Staff show good understanding of equal opportunities and inclusion and value individual children highly. They provide good support for children with special needs and work effectively with parents and external agencies to ensure individual needs are met.

Staff demonstrate a high regard for children's and safety. Good risk assessments are made of all areas. These are frequently reviewed, and there are effective routines in place to keep children safe and secure. Staff demonstrate good understanding of child protection issues. Children are learning basic hygiene routines well.

Parents are made very welcome within the setting. Staff develop good relationships with them and they are generally kept well informed about the provision and their children's care. However, the prospectus does not relate well to current practice. Most documentation is in place and maintained appropriately.

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

At the last inspection it was agreed to revise systems of recording when children and visitors present, to ensure staff checks are available for inspection, and ensure consents in place regarding some transport arrangements. These have all been addressed effectively. It was also agreed to ensure baby room is heated to the required temperature. This has been done and daily temperature is checked.

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

- The setting provides a welcoming, child friendly environment. Space is used effectively in and out of doors to provide care and learning opportunities.
- Children of all ages take part in a good range of activities. These are age appropriate and provide good levels of stimulation and challenge, and are supported well by extensive resources.
- Staff show a high regard for the safety of children. There are good systems in place to keep children safe and secure.
- Staff interact well with children. They manage behaviour well and children show understanding of rules and routines.
- Staff work well with parents to ensure individual children's needs are met. Staff show good understanding of equal opportunities and provide an inclusive environment.

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

- the complaints procedure so that it refers to Ofsted as the regulatory body
- the child protection policy to detail the procedures if an allegation is made against a member of staff

- the prospectus given to parents.

**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
14	Ensure all policies and procedures required by the National Standards are accurate, in place and communicated to parents.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Mayfield Kindergarten provides good quality nursery education. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals in personal social and emotional development and in physical development. They are making generally good progress in communication language and literacy, in mathematical development, in knowledge and understanding of the world, and in creative development.

Teaching of the children is generally good. Staff show very good knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals and generally effective planning ensures that children are making good progress in all areas. However links in planning to the stepping stones are inconsistent, leading to some aspects of learning receiving insufficient emphasis. Restricted access to some resources limits children's learning in some areas. Staff have very good processes of observation and assessment and these are used well in planning the next steps for individual children. Clear evaluations are made of activities, and these are used well to ensure appropriate levels of challenge for children. Staff manage behaviour well, they are consistent and positive and give children good levels of support and encouragement. Support for children with special needs is good, with effective systems in place to ensure inclusion and participation.

Leadership and management are generally good. The staff team are well qualified and there is clear understanding of roles and responsibilities. There are generally effective systems in place to identify and address any weaknesses, and a commitment to staff training and development.

Partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are kept well informed about the setting, activities, and their children's care, and are made to feel very welcome. However, systems of feedback do not consistently keep parents informed of their children's progress towards the early learning goals.

### What is being done well?

- Children are confident and have good self esteem. They concentrate well during activities, and behaviour is good.
- Children communicate well with each other and with adults. They express themselves confidently and use descriptive language well.
- Children count well, and have a good understanding of shape, size and measure. They are developing a good knowledge and understanding of the natural world, and explore and investigate confidently.
- Children are developing good large and small motor skills, and use a wide range of tools and equipment. They take part in a variety of art and craft

activities.

- Staff show good knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals, and make good use of observations and assessments of children.
- Staff develop good relationships with parents.

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

- children's access to activities and resources that promote development of ICT skills
- links to stepping stones in planning
- opportunities for children to informally practise calculation skills
- children's access to resources to encourage more independent use of books and opportunities for creative play
- feedback to parents about children's progress towards 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 show high self-esteem. They interact well with each other and adults, and are interested and keen to participate in activities. Behaviour is good, children share and work well together. They show a good understanding of rules and routines within the setting, and are developing personal independence. Children confidently choose activities and resources and persist well with these.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children communicate well with each other and adults. They use language effectively to express their thoughts and ideas, and are developing a good descriptive vocabulary. They link sounds and letters well and are developing good handwriting skills. Children listen well and enjoy participating in stories, and are developing an understanding of print having meaning. However, they are not independently using books as a regular part of their play.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children count confidently and well, with good one-to-one correspondence. Their recognition of numerals is good, and they take part in a good variety of activities that develop counting skills. Understanding of shape, size, and measure is good, and children use positional language well. Children are developing an appropriate knowledge of simple calculation, but do not practise these skills in everyday, meaningful contexts.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children explore and investigate confidently and take part in a good range of experiments that examine change. They are developing knowledge of the natural world, and have a good sense of time and place. They take part in a variety of activities that develop their understanding of their own and other cultures. Activities that encourage ICT skills are limited and not all children have opportunities to develop these.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and with control. They use a good range of large and small scale apparatus and equipment, and they manipulate tools and materials competently. Children are developing good spatial awareness and negotiate their environment well. They show understanding of how their bodies work and awareness of basic health and hygiene.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children take part in a variety of art and craft projects that encourage exploration with a range of media and materials. They take part in regular singing and musical activities, and they engage well in imaginative role play. They take part in good, planned, adult led creative activities. However opportunities for non product focused creativity are limited.

**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**

- link plans to the stepping stones and develop systems of feedback to parents to ensure that all are kept suitably informed of their children's progress towards the early learning goals
- ensure children have access to resources and opportunities to practise what they learn in everyday, meaningful contexts, and through non adult directed activities, with particular regard to books, creative materials and ICT.

*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.*