



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 123175

DfES Number: 501375

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 10/03/2004
Inspector Name Pauline King

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care, Full Day Care
Setting Name Nightingales Nursery
Setting Address St. Francis Xavier College, Malwood Road
London
London
SW12 8EN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of St. Francis Xavier Sixth Form College & committee

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St. Francis Xavier Sixth Form College & committee
Address St. Francis Xavier College
London
SW12 8EN

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

Nightingales Day Nursery is a private day nursery, which opened in 1994 to provide care for the children of the staff of St Francis Xavier College and the local community.

The nursery is managed by the governing body of St Francis Xavier College. The nursery is located in a residential area of South London and has easy access to buses and underground station. The children attending the nursery come from different social backgrounds with some cultural diversity.

The premises consists of three classrooms, office, staff kitchen and toilets in a converted house in the grounds of St Francis Xavier College. There is easy access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

The nursery is open from 08:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday for 51 weeks a year. Currently the nursery has 39 children on the roll who attend a variety of sessions. The nursery receives funding for 10 children aged 3 to 4 years old. The nursery welcomes children with special needs.

Six staff work with the children and all hold a qualification in Childcare. The nursery also offers work placements for students undertaking training in childcare.

How good is the Day Care?

Nightingales Day Nursery provides good care for children.

Space and resources are organised well to meet the children's needs. The premises are clean and well maintained. They provide a good range of toys, play materials and equipment, which promote equality of opportunity and support children's development. The children's individual needs are taken into account and they have access to appropriate toys and learning resources, although access for the younger age group is limited. The staff are aware of promoting the welfare and development of children with special needs in partnership with parents.

There are clear policies and procedures in place, which promote the welfare and care of the children, and some of these are being reviewed and updated. The nursery take positive steps to promote safety and the children have an awareness of potential dangers. Staff promote good health and hygiene practices within the children's daily routine and there are clear procedures in place. Dietary and religious requirements are taken into account and discussed regularly with parents and nursery cook.

Staff have a knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. There are procedures in place to ensure the protection of children.

There are clear procedures in place for behaviour management, which are implemented by staff and shared with parents. There are procedures in place that keep parents informed about the provision and parents evenings are arranged three times a year plus a newsletter is given to each parent every month.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Actions set at last inspection have all been completed. Babies daily record sheets are now completed and given to parents. Children's times of arrival and departure are now recorded on the register. Administering medication to children is now signed by staff. All worn blankets have been replaced. Ofsted is informed of all new staff employed.

What is being done well?

- Space and resources organised well to meet the children's needs effectively.
- Children grouped appropriately, there are sufficient qualified staff working directly with the children.
- Premises are clean and well maintained and organised to meet the needs of the children.
- Positive steps to promote safety and children have a good awareness of potential dangers.
- Promoting good health and hygiene practices within the children's daily routine.
- Special needs co-ordinator who actively works closely with parents and other organisations.
- Provision of a parents' news letter every month and holds parent evenings three times a year.
- Parents are invited to sit on Steering Committee.
- Staff demonstrated positive knowledge and understanding of all policies and procedures.
- Records are organised well and easily accessible.

What needs to be improved?

- the accessibility of toys for younger age children
- systems for recording medication administered to children and written consent from parents before administering medication to children.
- safety for children, by ensuring the food is served at a safe temperature.

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
5	Ensure toys and equipment is easily accessible to the younger children.
7	Obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children and keep a written record , signed by parents, of medicines given to children.
6	Ensure food provided for children is served at a safe temperature.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Nightingales Nursery offers high quality education where children are making very good progress towards the Early Learning Goals in all areas of development.

Teaching is very good due to the positive teaching methods of staff. Staff know children well and have very good relationships with them and are able to engage children fully to extend children's individual learning. They manage children's behaviour well and set realistic boundaries. Staff plan a wide range of activities and make learning fun for the children. Staff have knowledge of the Early Learning Goals and have access to ongoing training. Observations and children's assessments to show how children have moved from one stage of development to the next needs to be more evaluative and examples of what children have achieved need to be recorded.

Leadership and Management is very good. The setting is clearly managed with the manager taking responsibility for the organisation and deployment of staff. Staff are responsible for the written planning and the manager oversees the end result. The manager is committed to improvement and recognise which areas of the setting need to be improved and undertake training to support this. The staff team communicate well and are very supportive of each other. Staff know what is expected of them and are very committed to working as a team.

The partnership with parents is very good. Parents stated that they were very happy with the standard of care and education the pre-school provides. Parents felt they could approach the staff with any concerns. They stated that they receive sufficient information and have regular meetings regarding their children's individual progress and events within the setting. Parents have participated in nursery activities. Information given to parents regarding the Early Learning Goals needs to be updated to promote the standard of education that the children receive.

What is being done well?

- Staff have sound knowledge of the children's individual needs. They plan a varied and stimulating curriculum, which all the children can access. Children concentrate well on chosen activities.
- Examples of children's work are displayed to create a welcoming environment. Children are proud to show you their achievements and are able to discuss what they did to produce the end result.
- Children are very happy and confident they are able to express their needs and feelings openly. They have good relationships with both adults and children and are well behaved and polite.

What needs to be improved?

- the information given to parents regarding the Early Learning Goals
- the recording of childrens progress
- the organisation of creative activites.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has made very good progress since the last inspection.

Children can access puzzles, games and other resources independently. All drawers and storage containers are labelled in a way that enables children to be aware of what the contents are.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are well behaved and polite, with staff providing consistent and realistic boundaries. Children relate well to each other and staff and children and are able to share and take turns. Children are confident and motivated to learn. Children have good opportunities to develop their independence and self help skills through everyday activities. Children have an understanding of their own and other peoples cultures and beliefs.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children and adults talk freely and confidently and use complex language and sentences with each other to express ideas and feelings. Children enjoy looking at books, know how to handle them and enjoy having stories read to them. There are good opportunities for children to practise writing skills and children are able to write and recognise their names, simple sentences and words. Children have the opportunity to take part in french lessons and can use sign language.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children can count confidently up to 10 and older children beyond 20. Children have a good understanding of shapes, space and can compare size and quantity. There are good opportunities to recognise numbers and use maths in everyday activities including the use of simple addition and subtraction. Staff plan mathematics into all areas of the nursery. Children have access to good resources for mathematical development. Staff are developing the opportunities to explore weighing and measuring.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children can recall past and present events and show an understanding of time. Children have a good understanding of their own community and have good opportunities to learn about other cultures as well as their own. Staff are improving the opportunities for children to use and explore IT and communication technology and programmable toys. Staff provide a good range of materials and activities for children to explore and investigate with all their senses.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress in this area. Children move confidently with control and co-ordination and have opportunities to use equipment to develop their gross motor skills. Children are developing their fine motor skills with the use of pencils, rolling pins, cutters, scissors etc. Children have many opportunities to recognise the importance of staying healthy. Good use is made of the outside area. Children have the opportunity to take part in organised sport lessons.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress in this area. Children are confident to use their imagination in role play, music and to develop their own ideas during creative activities. Children know their colours and are able to match, mix and grade colours. They are given regular opportunities to take part in spontaneous creative play and free art but this is inhibited by the organisation of the rooms used. Children have opportunities to take part in music and movement on a regular basis.

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:

- All areas of learning are very good.
- Points for consideration are: -
- Ensure that the environment is organised to enable children to explore creative activities including spontaneous painting and role play freely.
- Provide parents with up to date information of the Early Learning Goals and the impact it has on their children's education in the nursery.
- Develop the current system for recording children's progress by ensuring it is evaluative and has examples of the children's achievements.

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.