



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 142780

DfES Number: 514436

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	04/02/2004
Inspector Name	Helen Hunt

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Shepton Beauchamp Playgroup
Setting Address	The Village Hall Shepton Beauchamp Ilminster Somerset TA19 0LP

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Shepton Beauchamp Playgroup
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Shepton Beauchamp Playgroup
Address	The Village Hall Shepton Beauchamp Ilminster Somerset TA19 0LP

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

Shepton Beauchamp Playgroup is situated in the village hall of Shepton Beauchamp village in South Somerset

The main play spaces are provided in a large hall, one small work room and a small outdoor play area. The hall has a toilet block and kitchen leading from the main hall.

The group is registered for 24 children and there are currently 26 children on roll with six 4 year olds and nine 3 year olds in receipt of funding. There are three children with special needs and no children with English as an additional language.

The group is open each weekday morning from 09:00 to 12:45. In the spring term a session is provided for children who start school in the autumn and this lasts all day from 09:00 to 15:00.

A session for the rising three's is also offered on Tuesday afternoons.

There are currently six members of staff, five of whom hold childcare qualifications or are working towards these. The group is a member of the Pre school Learning Alliance and receives regular visits from Foundation stage advisors.

How good is the Day Care?

The quality of the day care is good.

Children and parents are welcomed in to an attractively organised environment. A broad range of resources and activities are prepared for them before they arrive and extensive opportunities are given to the children to explore and investigate.

Staff are well qualified and experienced and manage the children's behaviour well and consistently. Staff are particularly good at helping children with special needs and calling on outside agencies for support if needed. Staff are committed to improvement of the provision and attend regular training.

Relationships with parents are good. Parents are given good information about the group and the activities which will take place. They are encouraged to be part of their child's learning by joining in the helpers rota and providing information about their child at home.

Good attention is paid to safety with regular risk assessments and fire drills taking place. Good security is maintained and there are effective systems for the arrival and collection of children.

Staff have a very professional approach to their work and keep all paperwork in a confidential manner. Some paperwork has not been updated to be in line with the new standards.

What has improved since the last inspection?

All previous actions have been met as follows:

A recruitment policy has now been written and this includes a system for vetting staff.

A procedure for lost or uncollected children is now in place and used by the group.

Visitors to the group are recorded in a book.

Risk assessment booklets are now used to record risk assessments.

Medication is now recorded as are incidents regarding behaviour.

What is being done well?

- Good attention is paid to safety with regular risk assessments being made.
- A good range of toys and activities are provided and are easily accessed by the children.
- Behaviour is well managed and children are given lots of encouragement to learn.
- Detailed observations are made of the children and are used to help them progress to the next stage in their development.
- Staff are well qualified and committed to improvement.
- The space is well used and organised and made to be attractive for the children.

What needs to be improved?

- the complaints procedure
- consent for emergency medical treatment.

Outcome of the inspection

Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

<i>All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.</i>
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<i>As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.</i>

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
12	Include Ofsted's contact details in the complaints procedure.
14	Obtain signed parental consents for emergency medical treatment.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The quality of the nursery education is very good.

Children are making very good progress in all six areas of learning of Personal, Social and Emotional development; Mathematical development; Physical development; Creative development; Communication Language and Literacy and Knowledge and Understanding of the World.

The quality of the teaching is very good.

Staff have a very good understanding of the early learning goals and use this to plan and implement a broad range of activities. Staff manage behaviour well and encourage children to explore and investigate for themselves by offering a wide range of free play activities and resources. They encourage children to learn from each other. Both the learning environment and resources are well managed and staff offer a calm supportive role which provides an atmosphere of security in which children are confident to try out new ideas. Staff pay particularly good attention to the individual needs of children. Observations are used professionally to record children's progress.

Partnerships with parents is very good.

Parents are provided with good information about the setting and are well informed about their children's progress via daily feedback and formal appointments. Explanations of the expected learning outcomes are provided alongside details of forthcoming activities. Parents are welcomed into the group, take part in the helpers rota and are assured confidentiality for any information they provide.

Leadership and management is very good.

Staff are well qualified, experienced and work very well as a team. Each member of staff is clear about their own role and responsibilities. There is strong commitment to continuous improvement and all staff are keen to develop themselves through further training. The nursery education offered is well monitored and reviewed. Good use of outside agencies is made if additional support is needed.

What is being done well?

- Children are confident, well behaved and enthusiastic to learn. They are very co-operative and keen to help each other.
- Children have a broad range of vocabulary and use this well to express themselves.
- Children are able to count using everyday objects and understand simple mathematical vocabulary.

- Very good opportunities are provided for the children to use Information Technology and their skills in using this are very good. They are able to explore, design and make complex constructions.
- Children are well co-ordinated and are able to handle tools well.
- Children use their imagination very well in role play and construction activities.

What needs to be improved?

- Written evidence of varying activities for children of differing ages and abilities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The setting has made very good progress since the last inspection. At the previous inspection there were no significant weaknesses noted but two points for development were raised.

More information for parents about the expected learning outcomes for activities was suggested.

This point has been fully discussed and actioned. Parents are now provided with not only a list of future activities but alongside this a sheet containing what the children may learn from these.

More opportunities for children to express themselves creatively were recommended.

Opportunities to be creative are now extensive and one of the main strengths of the group. Children are provided with a wealth of materials and resources and use these very well in craft and construction activities.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

They are confident, enthusiastic to learn and keen to try out new experiences. Their behaviour is very good and they co-operate well with each other. They show knowledge and respect for simple rules.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children have a very range of vocabulary and are confident to talk and able to express themselves well. They can link letters to sounds and have very good recognition of written letters and names. They are keen to attempt writing in a range of situations.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children practise counting in a variety of everyday events and use and understand simple mathematical vocabulary. They have a very good understanding of shape and position and competently complete puzzles and computer games involving shape.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children have exceptionally good IT skills, demonstrated when using the computer alone and in small groups. They take advantage of the very good opportunities provided in free play activities to design and create complex constructions.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and safely when using large pieces of equipment. They are well co-ordinated when dancing to music. They handle tools such as scissors and brushes well to produce high quality craft work.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children use their imagination extensively during role play and craft work. They are very interested to explore the broad range of media provided to them during free play sessions. They are able to use complicated shapes and patterns to create difficult constructions.

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 key issues but one point for consideration.
- Ensure planning documentation shows evidence of the methods used to vary activities for different ages and abilities.

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.