



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 200487

DfES Number: 523158

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	02/04/2003
Inspector Name	Valerie Jean Edward

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name	Ashleigh Nursery School
Setting Address	Ashleigh, Old Watling Street Atherstone Warwickshire CV9 2PA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Kate Adams
------	----------------

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
Ashleigh Nursery School first opened in 1990 and is located in the town of Atherstone, Warwickshire. The nursery operates from a large detached bungalow set in a secluded location with extensive gardens with ample parking. The nursery serves local and surrounding areas. The provision is registered to provide care for 36 children between the ages of six weeks to five years of age. It operates from 7.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday with the exception of Bank Holidays. The nursery offers full or part-time care. There are currently 48 children on roll. There are two children attending the nursery with special needs, there are no children attending whose first language is not English. There are 15 children who are receiving the nursery education grant. There are 12 members of staff available to work directly with the children, all of whom hold an early years qualification. The provision is managed on a day to day basis by the proprietor, who is a qualified teacher, and two deputies. The nursery are members of the Pre-School Learning Alliance, the local cluster group and the Early Years Forum. The nursery has the support of an advisory teacher from the Early Years Partnership for help and advice. The provision has access to three play rooms, with the addition of the 'senses' room, sleep room, toilets, equipped kitchen and outdoor garden. Children mainly live within a wide radius of the setting, with many parents using the nursery as they themselves work locally.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Ashleigh Nursery School provides a happy and welcoming environment where children make very good progress towards all six early learning goals. There is a good range of equipment which staff use well to support children's progress in all six areas of learning. Children's personal, social and emotional development is excellent, the children are confident and able to work on their own. The quality of teaching is very good, staff have a clear understanding of the foundation stage and provide a stimulating range of practical activities to help children learn. Planning and assessment systems provide a suitable framework to help children make progress. Staff work well alongside the children and have high expectations of their behaviour. There are good systems in place to support children identified as having special educational needs. Leadership and management is very good, staff are clear on their roles and work well together as a team. The manager has a strong commitment to monitoring, developing and improving practices. All staff are positively encouraged and supported to undertake further training. They contribute to regular reviews of their provision, which they use well to maintain and improve standards. Partnership with parents and carers is very good. Parents and staff have a friendly relationship. Parents receive information about the nursery and have access to information to activities.

What is being done well?

Staff's clear understanding of the early learning goals leads to well planned activities which engage and sustain children's interests and efforts. Children's personal, social and emotional development is excellent. They are confident, interested and able to work on their own. Behaviour is very good. An excellent range of activities and competent teaching ensure that children are progressing well in knowledge and understanding of the world. Staff set challenges for all children and good assessment of where children are in their learning helps them move to the next stage.

What needs to be improved?

Opportunities for children to develop an understanding of addition and subtraction through every day activities and songs.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Daily activities have been re-organised to give staff more time to follow up children's own ideas. The book area has been made more inviting with comfortable seating. Children are taken on regular trips into the community, which is included in long term planning.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are making very good progress in the area of personal, social and emotional development. They are well behaved, developing self-confidence and are eager to learn and they are forming good relationships with staff and becoming sensitive towards each other. Children are becoming independent and are able to select resources for themselves and work independently. There are opportunities for children to develop an understanding that people have different needs, cultures and beliefs.	
COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children's progress in communication, language and literacy is very good. They are beginning to listen and communicate and are extending their knowledge of vocabulary. Children show an interest in books and respond to stories. Good use is made of the graphics area, enabling children to develop pencil and scissor control and hand and eye co-ordination.	
MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children's progress in mathematical development is very good, they use numbers as part of their every day routine and count accurately up to 10 every day objects and are beginning to recognise numbers. Children are developing an understanding of size and quantity and mathematical ideas to solve a problem. However, there are missed opportunities for children to develop an understanding of addition and subtraction through every day activities.	
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children's progress in knowledge and understanding of the world is very good. Children are beginning to investigate objects and materials and can build and construct using a range of objects, selecting appropriate resources, tools and techniques to shape, assemble and join materials. Children are beginning to develop an understanding of the sense of time and past and present events. They are beginning to understand the uses of every day technology.	
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children's progress in physical development is very good. They are developing skills in control and co-ordination as they move confidently and imaginatively when using equipment. Children are beginning to develop a knowledge of the importance of good hygiene and keeping healthy. Children use a range of equipment and handle tools, objects and malleable materials safely and with control.	

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children's progress in creative development is very good. There are plenty of opportunities for children to use their imagination in art and design and role play. They explore colour, texture, shape, form and space in two and three dimensions. Children are beginning to respond in a variety of ways with all of their senses.	
Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately:	Y

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
Opportunities for children to develop an understanding of addition and subtraction through every day activities could be further developed.