



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 316462

DfES Number: 582738

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	02/06/2004
Inspector Name	William, Peter Stringer

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Supertots Nurseries Ltd
Setting Address	191 Edenfield Road Rochdale Lancashire OL11 5AF

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Supertots Day Nurseries Ltd 2709876
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Supertots Day Nurseries Ltd
Address	142 Manchester Road Rochdale Lancashire OL11 4HA

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

Supertots Nursery Day Nursery opened under it's current registered provider in 1998. It operates from rooms on the ground floor within a row of former cottages which have been converted to form one single building, with a large enclosed area for outdoor play. The Nursery is situated in a residential area on the outskirts of Rochdale, and provides a service to families from a mix of social, cultural and economic backgrounds from within the local community and beyond.

There are currently 95 children on roll from 3 months to five years. This includes 23 funded three years and 7 funded 4 year olds. Children attend a variety of sessions. The Nursery supports one child who has special needs.

The Nursery opens for five days a week all year round, with sessions operating between the hours of 07:30 am until 18:00 hrs pm.

One part time and 17 full time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. There are currently three staff working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from the local Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Supertots Day Nursery provides a good standard of care for children. The Nursery benefits from good management, is well organised to meet the needs of individual children. The staff are effectively deployed and the continuity of care is good. The staff team work well together with clearly defined roles and areas of responsibilities. The nursery is committed to evaluating and further developing it's services. This is evident with the installation of a senior manager to implement and evaluate it's services. Staff attention to written records is generally good, with the policies and procedures reviewed and updated periodically.

The staff team have a clear understanding of health and safety, they follow established systems and procedures to minimise potential hazards to the children

whilst in the nursery and whilst in the outdoor play area. There is a good level of understanding of the procedures to be followed in the event of any child protection matters to ensure that the appropriate guidelines are followed.

The policy of equality of opportunity has been developed well within the nursery, with due regard made to the individual needs of the children in accordance to the wishes of parents. Staff in the baby unit ensure babies can interact with consistent adults at frequent intervals. All children are given very good opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities. The staff team are resourceful and can adapt resources to provide new and stimulating experiences for the children. They also support children with additional needs. There is a lack of resources reflecting positive images.

The Partnership with parents was observed to be working well, supported by feedback from parents themselves. Parents are kept well informed about their child, as well as information about the operation of the nursery.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the nursery was required to contact the Environmental Health Department for confirmation that requirements are being met. This has been addressed, and a complete inspection undertaken by that department who reported its findings in February 2004 with its recommendations satisfactorily met.

The nursery was also asked to ensure that chairs used for babies are developmentally appropriate. This matter has been addressed with the purchase of several high chairs for use within the baby unit.

Due to the above improvements being undertaken the care, safety, and wellbeing of the children has been improved.

What is being done well?

- Staff have good opportunities to develop professionally through internal systems such as appraisal, induction and team meetings. They are also able to attend a broad range of external courses
- The deployment and in some instances the long service of the staff provides a good level of continuity, staff are knowledgeable about the children in their care and have formed good relationships with both the children and their parents.
- Staff have a good knowledge of each child's stage of development and plan effectively to encourage all children from birth to five to make progress
- Parents and staff have formed good relationships as well as effective systems of communication to the benefit of each child's continuity of care.

What needs to be improved?

- the resources which reflect positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and

disability

- the recording in some documents.

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	Extend range of resources, toys, materials to promote equality of opportunity and positive images.
14	Improve documentation by ensuring that parents sign medication, accident and incident records.Children`s actual hours of daily attendances to be shown.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Supertots Nursery provides good- quality nursery education overall. This enables children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals in the six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Children are grouped according to age and plans for learning show differentiation for older children. Staff use a variety of assessment methods, including an effective system to record observations. The system is not yet fully developed to inform planning.

Staff manage children's behaviour well and are effective role models for children. Staff use questioning to extend children learning but do not always use it effectively. Staff have created areas where children can easily access resources and can access the outdoor area freely from the creative area

The leadership and management of the nursery is generally good. Staff appraisals are used to identify individual training needs but there is not yet a system in place to identify gaps in training for the nursery. The management team are able to identify their own weaknesses and work closely with the Early Years Childcare and Development Partnership to improve practice. Staff are encouraged to implement ideas gained from training and well planned visits.

The partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are well informed about the provision via the nursery booklet, the operation plan and an open day. Regular news letters and plans inform parents of what children are learning. Parent of children leaving to go to school are encouraged to become actively involved in their child's learning by sharing books from nursery with their child. They receive an annual report when their child leaves nursery and goes to school but not all parents are aware of this. There is no mechanism for staff and parents to share information about their child's development to inform the next steps for learning for that child.

What is being done well?

- Staff are committed to ongoing development through training and use training to improve the environment for children.
- Staff help children to behave well by talking to children about their expectations so children are clear on the boundaries. They discuss about being kind to each other, using books to explore feelings and consequences of behaviour.
- Children have good relationships with each other.
- Children concentrate well on activities.
- Staff provide a well resourced writing area where children can readily access

materials.

What needs to be improved?

- the information in the planning documents
- the sharing of information between staff and parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Generally good progress has been made in implementing key issues from the last inspection.

Children learn about letter sounds through planned daily opportunities to say initial sounds. Staff have introduced games that promote the use of initial sounds and visual aids are readily available to help children to recognise letters of the alphabet. Well chosen computer programmes help children to consolidate their learning.

Children learn about counting as part of daily routine and staff use practical examples for children to learn about addition and subtraction.

Planning has been reviewed and links into the areas of learning and includes the ongoing provision. The evaluation of activities is in general terms rather than individual children's responses to help plan for future learning.

Information for parents on what children learn has been improved via the nursery booklet and the operational plan.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are confident when leaving their parent. They have growing independence when managing their own personal needs. Children select their own activities during free play and concentrate well on activities. Children's independence is sometimes limited by routine, only experiencing some activities when time-tabled. Children are making good relationships with each other. They are taught to say please and thank you but this is not monitored consistently by staff.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children speak confidently to each other and unfamiliar adults. They use books independently and are able to repeat stories. Children recognise their own name at self-registration and as a whole group. Children are encouraged to write their own name and older children are able to copy from their name card, with most letters correctly formed. Book areas encourage children to use books but access in the pre-school room is limited by the furniture. Children use writing well in role play.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children learn to count through practical experiences e.g. registration. Children learn about shapes by playing games. They can sort successfully by size and colour but the full potential for learning is sometimes missed by not allowing children sufficient time for children to think and solve the problem themselves. Children are beginning to understand early calculations using addition and subtraction .

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children find out about how things grow through planting sunflower seeds in the nursery garden. Children are competent at using the computer and work at their own level. They share information about their families through drawings and discussion. Children experience first hand about police officers and fire fighters through them visiting the nursery. Photographs show children's learning to build using bricks but sometimes learning to construct is limited by the challenge being removed.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children move confidently with control when stretching and bending for music and movement. They handle tools with increasing control e.g. when using spades, paint brushes and scissors. Children manage their own personal needs well. Children's knowledge on dental hygiene is promoted by a visit from the dentist and the daily brushing of teeth. Children develop skills for climbing and crawling by using large equipment. Plans do not show any challenge for more able children.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children enjoy music tapping the rhythm with percussion instruments. They use imagination well when dancing like flowers. Children join in enthusiastically with familiar songs. They use their imagination well in role play using good quality resources. Children explore shape and texture through well planned activities although resources for collage were limited and organisation does not allow for easy selection.	
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

- improve planning further, to include the next steps for individual children, using observations to inform the planning.
- plan more opportunities for staff and parents to share information on children's progress, including information on what parents already know about their child.

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.