



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 309447

DfES Number: 523972

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	10/02/2005
Inspector Name	Denise Sixsmith

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Rufford Pre-School Playgroup
Setting Address	Rufford Village Hall Flash Lane Rufford Lancashire L40 1SW

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Julie Sherrington
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## 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

Rufford Pre-School Playgroup opened in 1993 and operates from the large hall and a smaller room in the village hall. The hall is situated in the playing fields in the village of Rufford. The group is open for 43 weeks a year Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 08:00 to 16:00 and Wednesday and Thursday 08:00 to 13:00. The children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 33 children aged from 2 to under 5 years on roll. Of these 21 children receive funding for nursery education.

The nursery employs 3 full time staff including the provider and 2 part time staff. All of the full time staff hold appropriate early years qualifications as does the supply staff. The group receives support from a teacher from the Sure Start, Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

Rufford Pre School Playgroup provides good care for children. There are clear procedures and practice in place ensuring that children are safe. Good use is made of the resources to help children to be settled and happy. The premises are bright and decorated with the children's work providing a warm and welcoming environment. A good range of toys and equipment are provided ensuring a balanced range of activities for the children.

Staff are vigilant with regards to the health and safety of the children. Good health and hygiene is promoted with the children, with adequate nappy changing procedure in place. All staff have first aid certificates. Children have access to drinks throughout the sessions, provided in their own individual containers. A snack is provided by the group and packed lunch by parents, however storage requires review. Staff are vigilant in meeting children's individual dietary requirements.

Children enjoy attending and are involved in making choices from a range of activities which support their language development, mathematical thinking,

imagination and creativity. They are interested and eager to play with the activities and toys set out for them enjoying the role play area. All children are valued and are making warm trusting relationships with staff and each other. The staff have a satisfactory understanding of child protection issues. Children are confident and supported well by staff who are interested in what they have to say and develop their language skills well.

Staff and parents effectively exchange information with regards to children's progress through documentation and informal daily discussion. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in the group and stay until their child settles. They speak highly of the staff and group stating that their children are happy to attend.

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

The group agreed at the last inspection to update policies. This has been completed successfully with staff responsibilities being outlined with regards to child protection. The behaviour management policy now includes a statement with regards to bullying.

The group has also successfully changed its status to that of full day care and on the whole implemented requirements well to provide increased care times for the children.

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

- The environment is warm and welcoming for children and parents with children's work being displayed although most of this has to be removed daily. The space is well organised for the children enabling them to work cooperatively in groups or quietly on their own particularly in the cosy domestic home play area.
- Staff promote children's self help skills and independence very well. Children help themselves to filtered drinking water throughout the sessions. They confidently attend the toilet and conscientiously wash their hands throughout the day.
- Staff have developed a warm rapport with parents who are very supportive of the group. They are all pleased with their children's eagerness to attend and that they receive ongoing updates of their children's progress.
- Staff and children have good relationships, with children's self esteem being fostered well through praise, encouragement and support. A calm, quiet approach to behaviour management is promoted by staff.

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

- procedure with regards to nappy changing
- storage of food

**PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)**

There are no complaints to report since April 2004.

**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
4	review the nappy changing procedure to ensure children's privacy and staffs easy access to hand washing facilities and ventilation.
8	Ensure that food is stored in accordance with food hygiene regulations.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Rufford Pre School Playgroup provides good quality education overall which enables children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals. Provision for personal, social and emotional development and creative development are strengths and children are making very good progress in these areas.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff know the children well, they support and encourage learning through a variety of activities. Children are happy and confident learners and form good relationships in the group. Staff provide good role models encouraging turn taking, sharing fairly, showing consideration and politeness towards others. They have a generally good knowledge of the early learning goals and work together closely to foster children's learning. Staff plan some good practical activities across the six areas of learning, however, some areas challenge children more effectively than others. The environment is organised with space and resources being managed well. Staff have due regard to the Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs and there is an effective system in place to provide good support for children and liaison with parents.

The leadership and management of the group is generally good. Strong teamwork results in the creation of a positive, caring group for children and parents. There is a good team commitment to improving the quality of care and learning for the children. Staff's access to regular training effectively contribute towards their professional development ensuring they keep up to date with current practice. A regular review of curriculum planning lacks rigour.

The partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are well informed about their children's daily activities, however, the two way sharing of children's learning is not as well developed. Parents speak very highly of the staff, group and that their children are happy at the group.

### What is being done well?

- Staff promote children's personal social and emotional development very well. Good attention and thought is given to promoting children's self esteem in a gentle caring manner. The children actively contribute their ideas at circle times as to how they be friends. They talk about being kind to each other, sharing the toys, smiling and giving hugs. The children sing the good morning friends song to start the day on a positive happy note.
- Children are learning to move very well in time to music while beating out the rhythm to their movements with rhythm sticks. Children listen to the taped instructions well in the 'Sticky Kids' activity, stretching curling and tip toeing with enjoyment and concentration. They move freely while twirling the variety of scarves to music.

- Children cooperate well together and enjoy their play with the staff.
- They develop their role play imaginatively in both the domestic area and with the garage workshop. They manoeuvre the cars between the garage to be mended and the talking petrol pump, parking well to 'fill up'.

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

- planning to ensure children, learn that print carries a variety of meaning, have regular opportunities to reinforce number skills through practical activity, experience more large scale physical play, and readily select resources, tools and techniques to shape, assemble and join materials
- two way sharing of information with parents about children's learning.

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

The group has made good progress since the last inspection.

Regular assessment and observation systems have been implemented and are used successfully to inform the planning. Individual assessment of children helps to ensure that all children make progress.

Staff have introduced the use of initial 'All About Me' booklets for parents to complete with their children as they start the group. This provides an opportunity for parents to inform staff about children's preferences and family composition helping staff to ensure that children settle easily and happily. Well presented termly reports are provided with regards to children's progress, however, provision for parental feedback is not as developed. The group is committed to ongoing improvements to develop the two way sharing of children's learning.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good relationships and eagerly enter the group to share their experiences with staff. They are happy, confident and eager learners who explore new activities readily and often persist in order to achieve success. Children show a good respect for the environment and each other, as they share, take turns and help to tidy away. They are developing good independent skills as they attend the toilet, wash their hands and put on their coats and dressing up clothes confidently.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confidently learning to identify their own written names on arrival at the group and on their water containers. Older children speak with confidence in group activities, expressing their ideas well. Children are forming letters and spontaneously make notes in the role play area but have less experiences to see and use a variety of print in ongoing activities. Children enjoy stories and eagerly predict what will happen next as well as making up their own stories in role play.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children use good mathematical language to describe position, shape and size while engaged in their play. They confidently talk about more and less while pouring and filling containers in the lentil tray. Children enjoy counting songs, however, there is less opportunity for children to develop and reinforce these skills through everyday activity. Children readily sort and identify smaller and bigger plastic animals in the small world play.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are learning about the wider world through activities, which include Chinese New Year celebrations and Pancake Day. They are effectively developing their understanding of the local community and people who help us through topics. Resources for children to select tools to readily assemble and join materials are limited. Children effectively learn about change when making crispy buns for the builders and how rockets work through practical experiments.

<b>PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children move confidently with a good awareness of space and consideration for others when moving around the room. They thoroughly enjoy stretching, curling up and tip toeing to verbal instructions and music. There is however less access to large scale climbing equipment. Children handle tools competently and safely when cutting out. They are developing good manipulative skills persevering very well when using serving tongs to select different sized pompoms.	

<b>CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children enjoy participating in role-play. Their imaginations are developing well, as they engage in pretend home play and the garage workshop. They fix the cars and fill up with petrol from the talking pump. Children readily explore texture and colour as they produce paintings reflecting their experiences. Children sing songs from memory with enthusiasm and enjoyment, they join in well with actions and use the rhythm sticks well to accompany the taped music and movement session.	

<b>Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.</b>
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## 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

- review and develop planning to ensure children, learn that print carries a variety of meaning, have regular opportunities to reinforce number skills through practical activity, experience more large scale physical play, and readily select resources, tools and techniques to shape, assemble and join materials
- introduce systems to develop the two way sharing of information with parents about children's learning and encourage the continuing of some play and learning activities at home.

*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.*