



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 302035

DfES Number: 515848

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	30/06/2003
Inspector Name	Sue Pepper

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Greengate House Nursery
Setting Address	188 New Line Greengates Bradford BD10 0BX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Diane Crawley & Mrs Molly Rhodes
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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

Greengate House Private Day Nursery opened in 1996. It operates from a converted business dwelling, set back off the road, on the outskirts of Bradford. A fully enclosed, secluded outdoor play area is available to the rear of the premises and some car parking is available to the front. The nursery serves the local community and surrounding towns.

There are currently 62 children from 0 to 5 years on roll. This includes 5 funded three year olds and 10 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round with the exception of bank holidays and Christmas. Sessions are from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm.

Sixteen full time members of staff work with the children, nearly all have early years qualifications. One members of staff is currently on a training programme. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Child care Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Greengate House Private Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. The enthusiastic owners are committed to continual improvement. A very attractive, warm and welcoming environment has been created where children are happy and settled.

Qualified, confident staff give high priority to ensuring children are safe. Equipment is regularly checked and well maintained. High standards are promoted regarding matters of health and hygiene which ensures any risks to children are minimal.

The stable staff team work extremely well together and they are all clear about their roles and responsibilities. Plans show that they provide an interesting and stimulating range of worthwhile activities over time which build on children's natural

curiosity as learners. Children under two years of age are well cared for by key members of staff who understand babies needs well. Staff caring for older children are continuing to develop the play space to ensure clearly defined areas of play are created which will offer children more opportunities to self select and enjoy sustained periods of uninterrupted play. Children's ideas are valued and they are encouraged to make their own decisions. Staff attend extremely well to children's individual needs and are particularly good at the inclusion of children with special needs. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged which results in children interacting very well with one another. Effective methods are in place for dealing with any inappropriate behaviour. Warm, caring relationships were observed between children of all ages and staff.

Staff work extremely well in partnership with parents, building trusting relationships. The key worker system ensures careful monitoring of babies and effective parental partnership. Parents are kept well informed through regular verbal exchanges and the provision of detailed daily written records. Staff are committed to further develop the observation files for older children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has made good progress since the last inspection when the providers agreed to provide a policy for lost or uncollected children which is now in place.

What is being done well?

- The owners are very involved with the day to day running of the nursery and are committed to developing procedures and systems already in place. (Standard 1, 2 and 14)
- An extremely attractive environment is maintained to a good standard and play provision is rotated to invite use. (Standard 4)
- The staff provide a good range of practical, interesting activities and experiences for children which develops their knowledge and understanding. Through staff spending a lot of time talking and playing with children they are helping them to learn many new skills and developing close relationships with them. (Standard 3)
- Staff attention to children's individual care, emphasis on equal opportunities, support and full inclusion of children with special needs. (Standard 3, 9 and 10)
- The children behave extremely well, responding to staff's clear guidance and praise they eagerly taking part in activities. (Standard 11)
- The staff's strong commitment to sharing information with parents, developing warm, trusting relationships. (Standard 12.)

What needs to be improved?

- the set snack time for older children which interrupts children's play. (Standard 3);
- opportunities for babies to explore natural materials. (Standard 3);
- the self selection opportunities for older children(Standard 3);
- the medication procedure (Standard 7);
- access to fresh drinking water for all children (Standard 8);
- the positive images representing disability (Standard 9)

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
3	Ensure that the set snack time for older children does not interrupt children's play
3	Extend self selection opportunities for older children to develop their own ideas and enjoy sustained periods of play.
7	Extend the written medication procedure to include when the last dose was given.
8	Ensure all children have free access to fresh drinking water including meal times
9	Ensure positive images are displayed which include disability.
3	Develop opportunities for babies to enjoy the exploration of natural materials such as treasure baskets.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Greengate House Private Day Nursery provides a welcoming atmosphere where children settle well. They make very good progress in the areas of communication, language, literacy and mathematical development. In all other areas of learning children make generally good progress. Staff understand the benefits of developing the presentation of resources to ensure children are provided with a stimulating, purposeful learning environment. The presentation of children's own work is of a very high standard.

The quality of teaching is generally good having a positive impact upon the children's attitude and motivation to learn. The staff team work extremely well together. Plans ensure that, over time, children have opportunities to access a good range of worthwhile experiences. The curriculum is enriched by the organisation of many local outings and visitors to the nursery which effectively supports themes. However, there are insufficient opportunities for more able children to develop their own ideas.

The leadership and management of the nursery is generally good. Enthusiastic, qualified owners successfully support the staff who are encouraged to continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of child care through undertaking further training. Written plans and individual record of achievement files are regularly completed and continue to be improved. Many good focus activities are provided which support themes well and these need to be evaluated so that planning is monitored for effectiveness.

Partnership with parents is very good and staff show respect and understanding of the role of parents in their child's learning. They have developed some close, trusting relationships with parents. Staff use a variety of effective ways of keeping parents fully informed such as regular verbal exchanges, informative newsletters and the introduction of meetings to discuss individual children's progress.

What is being done well?

- The children relate well to one another and adults and their behaviour is very good.
- The more able children are can demonstrate their developing understanding and skills and are confident to initiate conversations.
- Staff provide regular opportunities for children to practice writing for a purpose and develop their knowledge of letter sounds.
- Children listen carefully to instructions and stories.
- Staff provide children with regular opportunities to develop their understanding of numeracy and encourage them to solve simple problems through good practical, everyday activities.

- Children have regular opportunities to enjoy outdoor play, explore the local environment and investigate

What needs to be improved?

- the assessment systems need to be reviewed to ensure staff are identifying the next step in each child's learning and using this knowledge to inform their plans;
- the presentation of resources so that more able children have sufficient challenge and are able to develop their own ideas;
- the routines to ensure interruption to children's play is minimal.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has made generally good progress since the last inspection. Planning and assessment systems continue to improve. Staff have now formalised the way parents can contribute to their child's assessment file. Written reports for parents are now recorded under the six area of learning which encourages greater understanding of the foundation stage. High standards are maintained by the continual monitoring and reviewing of current practice and procedures.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children make general good progress. They are extremely enthusiastic and eager to take part in activities provided, working well independently or as part of a group. Children are secure, happy and confident. They are interested and involved in their play. They respond well to each other and adults, learning to share and take turns. However, more able children have insufficient opportunities to develop their own ideas and enjoy periods of uninterrupted play.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress through the many good role play situations and effective staff intervention. Many children are confident and fluent speakers and engage easily in conversation with each other and adults. They listen carefully to enthusiastically delivered stories which encourages them to enjoy looking at books for pleasure and for reference purposes. Older children have regular opportunities to practise writing for a purpose and learn letter sounds.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress. Some older children are able to count beyond twenty confidently and most can recognise basic numerals. Well planned themes support children's ability to develop a good understanding of maths for example learning about opposites. Children are encouraged effectively to understand about shape, position, size and quantity. Routines, displays and every day events ensure that children are regularly introduced to mathematical language.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children's learning is generally good. Children are learning to investigate and observe closely through the use of all their senses. They have many planned opportunities to explore and investigate. Older children have limited opportunities to select appropriate resources to join materials. They go on frequent outings to learn about the local environment. Activities support their learning about other countries fostering positive attitudes towards other cultures and lifestyles.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children make generally good progress in their physical development. They move confidently with control and agility. Children enjoy regular opportunities to access a range of experiences which offer them physical challenges such as wheeled toys and climbing equipment. However, there are limited opportunities to construct using large materials. More able children have insufficient opportunities to freely access a wide range of one handed tools to develop their fine motor skills.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children are making generally good progress. They are encouraged to explore a range of media and materials through the regular opportunities provided. They learn different techniques for using a range of mediums. Children's own work is valued and extremely well presented. They enjoy singing and some can sing simple action songs from memory. Children have no free access to design technology which limits their opportunities to express their own ideas independently.	
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

- Organise the setting to increase opportunities for older children to become more self sufficient and able to develop their own ideas;
- Review routines to ensure interruption to children's play is reduced to a minimum;
- Develop the assessment systems so that the next step in child's learning is clearly identified, using this knowledge to inform plans, evaluating activities for effectiveness.

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.