



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 509596

DfES Number:

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 06/01/2004
Inspector Name Mandy Mooney

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Village Nurseries Limited
Setting Address 98 Sparrows Lane
London
SE9 2BT

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Village Nurseries Limited 04051776

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Village Nurseries Limited
Address Bluebell Lodge
Wilkins Way
Brasted, Westerham
Kent
TN16 1JG

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

Village Nurseries Ltd playgroup opened in October 1992. It operates from a Scout Hall in Sparrows Lane, New Eltham. The group has access to a hall, kitchen and toilets. The playgroup serves the local area.

The group is a privately owned company and has recently become registered for funded 3 and 4 year old children. Children attend a variety of sessions each week.

The playgroup opens five days a week during school term times only. Sessions are from 9:15h until 12:00hrs.

Five full time staff work with the children. Half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level II. Two staff are working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from an advisory teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The village Nursery offers generally good quality nursery education, where children enjoy learning through a variety of interesting and stimulating activities.

Effective teaching helps children make generally good progress towards the early learning goals in all six areas of learning.

The teaching is generally good and staff mostly demonstrate a good understanding of how children learn and they show a commitment to the ongoing improvement by attending training. They use their knowledge to plan and provide a curriculum that provides interesting experiences although on occasions this lacks challenge for the more able children, the lack of organisation and clear purpose ultimately affects the children's enjoyment of the activities.

Staff show positive management of children's behaviour and have high expectations of behaviour. They use a variety of strategies to encourage good behaviour, including plenty of praise and encouragement, and acting as good role models for positive behaviour.

Staff have developed positive relationships with parents and have recently implemented systems to keep them informed of the provision. Parents are generally pleased with the provision, however would like to see an improvement in the written information given on the children, this is an area highlighted for improvement.

Leadership and management is generally good. Much of the success of the setting is due to clear leadership and a well structured management system. There is a strong commitment to ongoing staff development and improving the nursery education.

What is being done well?

- Staff have developed good relationships with the children; the children are happy and secure in their surroundings, the children are confident and keen to participate in the activities provided.
- The partnership with parents is good and staff work hard to inform, parents and carer's about their children's achievements and progress. Staff also involve them on supporting their children's learning.
- The leadership and management are strong and helps support good teamwork, and commitment to continuous improvement of the service.

What needs to be improved?

- Children's understanding of addition and subtraction through practical activities and opportunities to link sounds to letters.
- Children's experiences with technology and programmable toys to support their learning.
- Children's experiences with climbing and balancing and large physical play to support their learning.
- The organisation and planning of activities to meet the needs of children and the use of assessment to monitor children's progress and help them move to the next stage of learning.

What has improved since the last inspection?

n/a

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children confidently take part in various activities, are interested and use resources well. Children have good relationships with staff and each other. On occasions children's decision making skills are restricted by over direction of adult .

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident speakers and engage easily in conversations with each other and adults. Children have many opportunities to practice their writing skills, however opportunities to link sounds to letters are limited.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's counting skills are developing well and many can count reliably to ten. More opportunities to enable children to practice subtraction and addition would further develop the children's understanding of mathematics.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children have a range of opportunities to explore and learn about cultures and the natural world. Children would benefit through being offered more opportunities to use information technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's fine motor skills are well supported and are developing well. Opportunities for children to develop balance and climbing skills and take part in large physical activities could be further developed.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children demonstrate a range of feelings through planned activities and show a keen interest in expressing themselves through role play activities. More focus could be placed on the organisation of music and movement to ensure it is organised so the children gain as much enjoyment as possible.

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

- increase staff's knowledge of how to use everyday activities and routines to help children develop their understanding of addition and subtraction and to link sounds to letters
- increase staff's knowledge of how to use everyday activities and routines to allow the children to access and learn about technology
- develop children's physical skills by providing a range of climbing and balancing equipment and more opportunities to take part in planned large physical play
- review the organisation and planning of activities to meet the needs of the children and the use of assessment to monitor children's progress and help them move to the next stage of learning.

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.