



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 305174

DfES Number: 584517

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	21/09/2004
Inspector Name	Lesley, Lynn MacNay

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Lostock Hall Pre-School Nursery Limited
Setting Address	Lostock Hall Primary School Mallard Crescent Poynton Cheshire SK12

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Kathryn Diane Farrar
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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

Lostock Hall Pre School Nursery is registered to provide full day care for 24 children aged from two to five years in Lostock Hall Primary School, Poynton. The provision has been registered for nine years. Mrs Kathryn Farrar is the registered provider.

The provision operates in three adjoining rooms in a section of the school. The group opens daily from 09:00 until 12:00 and 12:30 to 15:00 each Tuesday and Thursday during the school term. A number of children stay for their lunch and attend the morning and afternoon session.

The provider employs two supervisors. The provision operates an integration programme for children with special educational needs. The staff work closely with parents, professional agencies and the school. Children have access to a secure covered outdoor play area. They can also use the school hall for physical activities.

There are children attending whose additional language is English.

Lostock Hall Pre school are registered to receive education funding. They are members of the Pre School Learning Alliance.

How good is the Day Care?

Lostock Pre School Nursery Limited provides good provision.

The group have procedures in place for the recruitment, vetting and induction of new staff. All the children's registration details are in place along with emergency contact numbers. Three members of staff hold a level three qualification. Staff have attended child protection training. Policies and procedures are currently being reviewed and are made accessible to parents. There is a minor weakness in recording procedures. Good communication and open ended questioning helps the children to think, predict and learn.

Children are supervised and security arrangements ensure that children's safety is a priority. Two members of staff hold current first aid certificates. The environment is

warm and welcoming with children's art work displayed on the wall. Staff work closely with parents, school and other professional to support the integration of all children. Children are offered a healthy snack during the session.

The children are provided with a wide range of play resources that extend their physical, emotional, intellectual and social development. Children enjoy exploring creative, imaginative and sensory play. They confidently respond to and ask questions which enables them to understand the topic. Children are well mannered and relate well to their peers and adults. Their self esteem and confidence are fostered well.

Parents are provided with information regarding the current theme. Daily planning offers information regarding the programme of activities. They receive news letters to keep them informed of forthcoming events or changes in practice. Parents have access to groups policies, procedures and their children's records. Staff share information with the parents regarding their children's day to keep them informed. Parents are welcome to look at the children's developmental files and discuss their child's development.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Lostock Pre school Nursery have complied with the previous action and have included the address and contact number of the regulator. This has fostered a safer environment for the children.

What is being done well?

- Children are able to explore an exciting range of play materials that are appropriate for their age and level of development. Equipment is organised well, enabling children to gain the maximum benefit from their play.
- Children are valued and have equal access to all play materials to expand their knowledge and experience of ethnicity, gender and ability.
- Staff are warm and caring towards the children, they listen and are attentive to their needs.
- Safety procedures and practices ensure that daily routines are carried out to reduce hazards and safeguard children's welfare.
- Policies and procedures are in place to ensure the protection of all children attending the group.

What needs to be improved?

- the recording of all the required details of accidents in the accident book.

Outcome of the inspection
Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION
<i>All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.</i>
<i>As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.</i>

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
7	maintain an accurate record of any accidents occurring within the group

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Lostock Hall Pre School Nursery offers very good provision.

The Provider supports her staff team well. The team are conscientious and committed to the education and care of children. Staff are kept informed of changing practices and regularly discuss the children's individual needs and stages of development. The provider assess the nurseries strengths and weaknesses through observation and regular discussion. Recruitment, selection and induction procedures are in place.

Planning covers the six areas of learning. Many of the children are new and are still settling in. Staff are kind, caring, encouraging and supportive towards the children. Children are appropriately challenged and offered a wide range of stimulating and exciting activities. The procedure for recording children's assessments has recently changed. The staff are working closely with Cheshire's Early Years Team. Observations are used to inform future planning.

Children are praised and encouraged and their contributions to the group are valued. Children's self esteem and confidence are fostered well.

The nursery has a good range of play resources. Activities and topics help children to learn through a range of independent and adult supported experiences. Children enjoy number activities and can problem solve during circle time. Children mark make. They are learning to write their names and use books well. They model make and explore music, dance and role play. Further exploration of the alphabet and numbers are points for consideration.

Parents can approach the staff at any time, discuss their child's development and look at their assessment files. They receive information about the six areas of learning in the nurseries leaflet. The notice board provides information about routines, planning and the current theme. Settling in procedures ensure that children are settled at their own pace.

What is being done well?

- The staff team are conscientious and committed to providing a quality service to children.
- Children are able to explore a wide range of play materials that extend their learning.
- Skilful open ended questioning encourages children and challenges their learning. Children are creative, eager to learn and participate in new experiences.
- Children construct using a range of different construction materials,

demonstrating good hand and eye co-ordination.

- Children are confident, articulate and well mannered. Their self esteem is fostered well.

What needs to be improved?

- There are no significant weaknesses arising from this inspection but there are two points for consideration.
- greater opportunity for children to extend their knowledge of letters within the environment;
- greater opportunity for children to extend their knowledge by using numbers as labels

What has improved since the last inspection?

Lostock Hall pre school nursery have made good progress. They have acquired more resources that encourage an awareness and sensitivity of different cultures and beliefs.

They have had discussions with schools in the area and gained advice about the best way to help four year olds form letters and numbers and they have put this into practice.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are able to express their own needs. They have a positive approach to new experiences, are interested, motivated and eager to learn. They display good levels of concentration. They share information and answer open ended questions well. Children have formed good relationships with their peers and the staff. They are sensitive to the needs of others and are good listeners. Children understand right from wrong and are well mannered. They carry out tasks well and know the daily routines.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are good communicators. They listen well to stories with enjoyment. They recall events and respond to instruction. They freely access books, using them correctly. Many children are recognising their own names. Children confidently describe events and use their imaginations well. They use resources in the home corner to act out home events and communicate ideas. Children mark make with a purpose. Greater access to letters of the alphabet will consolidate their learning further.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are developing confidence when counting. They create patterns with peg boards. They explore simple addition and subtraction through songs and practical activities. Some children can count up to ten and beyond and know the value of five. Children recognise shapes and describe how many sides triangles and squares have. They describe items that are heavy and light and compare sizes. Children use resources well. Greater access to numbers will consolidate their learning further.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are curious and enjoy learning about the natural world, time and the changing seasons. They question and ask how and why things work and understand explanations from staff. Children skilfully assemble and join construction and malleable materials. They learn about the world around them through the celebration of festivals, books, resources and discussion. Children talk about significant events in their life. They show curiosity in magnets and explore items using magnifying glasses.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are agile and enjoy physical exercise. They confidently negotiate pathways when walking, riding bicycles, running, climbing and balancing. They show increasing control and dexterity. Children enjoy the challenge of obstacle courses. They are developing throwing and catching skills. Children skilfully use one handled tools demonstrating good hand and eye co-ordination when drawing, sticking and cutting. They explore small world play and use large construction materials well.	

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children easily differentiate between colours. They create art work and eagerly participate in craft activities. They create models using a range of materials. Children are creative and explore music, dance and musical instruments. They sing songs and nursery rhymes very well. Children enjoy painting, gluing, sand and water. Open ended questioning helps children to describe a range of textures and tactile experience. Children have good imaginations and particularly enjoy role play.	

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

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

There are no significant weaknesses to report, but considerations should be given to improving the following:

- There were no significant weaknesses to report from this inspection, but the following points for development should be considered.
- Further extend children's knowledge of the alphabet through play and general conversation.
- Provide greater opportunity for children to recognise and use numbers as labels.

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.