



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253108

DfES Number: 513129

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 18/03/2003
Inspector Name Liz Jones

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type
Setting Name Ranskill Nursery
Setting Address Cherry Tree Walk
Ranskill
Retford
Nottinghamshire
DN22 8LH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Ranskill Nursery

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Ranskill Nursery
Address Cherry Tree Walk
Ranskill
Retford
Nottinghamshire
DN22 8LH

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

Ranskill Nursery opened in 1979 and is managed by a committee of parents. It operates from a classroom within Ranskill Primary School, and they have access to the hall, kitchen, toilets and an enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery serves Ranskill and other surrounding villages.

The Nursery is registered to provide sessional day care for 20 children aged two to under five years, although their admittance policy is to only accept children from two and half to under five years. There are currently 22 children on roll. This includes four funded three-year-olds and ten funded four-year-olds. The nursery supports children for whom English is not their first language and children who have been identified as having special educational needs.

Opening hours are 9:00 am to 11:30 am Monday to Friday during term time only. In addition four year olds attending the nursery are invited to spend two afternoon sessions a week, in the primary school in their final term.

Three full time staff work with the children, two of the staff have early years qualifications, and are currently attending further training. The setting receives support from the Nottinghamshire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and are member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Ranskill Nursery offers a very good educational programme in a friendly and stimulating environment. Effective teaching helps children progress towards the early learning goals. A varied programme of activities is offered which supports the children's development and promotes all six areas of learning.

The quality of teaching is very good. Relationships between children and staff are very good. Staff have high expectations of behaviour and promote this through praise and encouragement. The staff use space and the wide range of resources and equipment to extend children's learning and maintain their interest.

Leadership and management of the setting is very good. Staff work well together as a team and act as good role models for children. Regular committee and staff meetings are held to assess the current strengths and weaknesses of the provision and develop ways to constantly enhance practice. The nursery is committed to the inclusion of all children and to improve the care and education within the setting.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. They are provided with good written information about the Foundation stage and the nursery.

Good relationship with parents and carers. Parents feel they are well informed about their children's progress on a daily basis and by the open evenings provided. Parents also report that the staff are very approachable and that they are very happy with the educational provision.

What is being done well?

- Staff work well as a team, providing an interesting range of activities.
- Staff are good role models for children.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is excellent and a strength of the setting.
- Children are confident within the setting and are motivated to learn.
- Staff interact well with the children, praising and encouraging them appropriately.
- Staff have a good relationship with parents.

What needs to be improved?

- ensure the Special Educational Needs Policy is in line with the DfES 2001 Code of Practice.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Both points that were raised for consideration have been met. The outdoor play area has been developed with a tarmac hard surface set out as a roadway. There is a wooden playhouse and a mural on the adjacent school wall, outdoor play equipment has also been purchased. The children have a garden in which they grow seasonal plants. The staff reviewed the Special Educational Needs policy in line with the Code of Practice, but this needs reviewing again to be in line with the Code of Practice 2001.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's behaviour is very good, they are learning to take turns, and share resources. They show care and concern for others and good manners are encouraged. Children are confident and happy within the setting and are actively involved in their learning, they show independence in selecting and carrying out activities.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children frequently attempt writing, good opportunities are provided for mark making at activities and during imaginative play. The older children can write their own name. Children enjoy stories and handle books with care, they are able to listen to stories and talk about them. Children are starting to link sounds to letters, and they are confident to use their verbal communication skills to initiate and share conversations with each other and staff.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's number skills are developing well, they are very confident with counting. Children are able to talk about, recognise and recreate simple patterns. Through the practical activities provided children are able to sort by colour and size.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident in the use of the computer, their skills are very good, and they are able to follow a program, change the activities and use the mouse. They have a good sense of time and place, this is demonstrated through their play and in discussions about their lives. Children's design and making skills are developing very well.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and in safety around the setting. The nursery has a good range of large and small equipment, which the children use well, demonstrating control and co-ordination. Children have a good awareness of personal space of themselves and others.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children confidently engage in imaginative play activities, they draw on their own experiences and use the readily available resources to extend their play. Children have a very good awareness of colour and are given opportunities to explore colour, texture, shape, form and space in two & three dimensions through good practical activities.

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 are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- continue the review of the Special Educational Needs Policy in devising strategies in line with the DfES 2001 Code of Practice

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.