



**Office for Standards  
in Education**

## **COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT**

**URN 402028**

**DfES Number: 517289**

### **INSPECTION DETAILS**

Inspection Date      01/10/2003  
Inspector Name        Chris Gregson

### **SETTING DETAILS**

Day Care Type        Full Day Care  
Setting Name         Wickham Bishops Nursery  
Setting Address      The Annexe  
                             Wickham Bishops Village Hall, Church Road  
                             Witham  
                             Essex  
                             CM9

### **REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS**

Name                    Mrs Belinda Frances Wakelin

## 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

Wickham Bishop Nursery opened in 1983. It operates from one room in a village hall in the village of Wickham Bishops. The nursery serves the local and surrounding area.

There are currently fifty-three children from two to under five years on roll. This includes twenty-two funded three-year-olds and fifteen funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting can support children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 09:30 until 16:00.

Eleven part time staff work with the children. Over half the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. Two staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

Wickham Bishops Nursery provides good care for the children.

Children are protected by effective policies and procedures. There is good use of staff, space and resources with facilities to rest, sit comfortably to play, join in activities and freely and safely move inside and outside. Children know the daily routines. Photo displays of the children's activities enhance the entrance area of the older village hall that is due to be replaced in the future.

The nursery is secure and children are safe as good health and safety and child protection policies are in place. Effective paperwork is in place about a child's diet or allergies and staff use this information to care for the individual child. They encourage good hygiene and know how to deal with an accident or comfort a child who becomes ill during the day.

Children can choose from a broad range of activities across the six areas of learning. Staff provide a very good range of interesting and stimulating resources and support the children's early learning through imaginative play. Positive images and multicultural resources are provided and all children can play with all the resources. Very good systems are in place to ensure the needs of the individual child are met and give additional or specific support, including an individual plan play, when needed. Children's behaviour is good as staff have high but realistic expectations.

Partnerships between the staff and parents are very good. Staff create a warm and friendly welcome for children and their parents so that children settle and feel secure. They are cared for according to their parents' wishes and staff keep parents informed of their child's welfare, progress and the nursery plans through written information in the prospectus, newsletters, policies and procedures. Parents visit before a child starts and a member of staff also visits their home to make a link between the nursery and home.

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

At the last inspection the provider agreed to update the written child protection statement to include procedures to be followed if an allegation is made against a staff member. The policy has been re-written to include this information and the new child protection information has been displayed for all to see on the notice board for parents.

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

- staff are very interested and involved in the children and provide a broad range of activities to promote early learning in all areas;
- staff provide interesting and exciting resources to support the activities and involve children in purposeful play and give them first-hand experiences that encourage exploration, observation and discussion;
- staff are friendly and open and have very good relationships with parents so that children feel secure within the nursery environment;
- children can play freely and safely inside and outside.

#### **An aspect of outstanding practice:**

children are given excellent opportunities to freely express themselves in their imaginative play, art and craft activities.

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

- daily risk assessments to enhance existing good practice.

**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	consider adding checking for cleanliness and safety to enhance the daily risk assessment.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Wickham Bishops Nursery offers good quality nursery education where children make very good progress towards the early learning goals. Children are interested, involved and enjoy their learning especially through imaginative play and good quality creative activities.

Teaching is very good. Staff understand how children learn and effectively adapt activities to allow for the differing abilities. Support for children with specific needs is very good and staff work closely with parents and other professionals. Independence is encouraged and children are able to access a range of resources and activities with positive images that support the children's learning inside and outside the nursery. Staff assess the children in their keyworker groups and know them as individuals. They plan a range of stimulating activities and absorbing learning experiences. Children are able to work individually, in a small group or a large group. Staff are good role models and use praise to raise children's self esteem and encourage good behaviour.

Leadership and management is very good. Staff are supported and attend training to update and develop their knowledge. In-house training is also provided. They work very well as a team, have clear roles and are enthusiastically involved and interested in the planning and evaluation of well-resourced activities. The nursery is part of the Effective Early Learning (EEL) project and has been awarded a quality assurance certificate.

Partnership with parents is very good providing the children with reassurance and enabling them to feel secure in the pre-school and contributing towards their progress towards the early learning goals. Staff have very good relationships with parents who feel staff are friendly, open, keep them well informed and are able to talk to them. Parents are provided with good quality information about the nursery and children's early learning.

### What is being done well?

- children are given excellent opportunities to use their imagination in role play, outside play, action songs and in the arts and craft activities. This allows children the freedom to develop their own ideas, thoughts and self-expression;
- staff provide interesting and stimulating activities and resources to enable the children to experience a wealth of materials and new experiences;
- children see and play with a good range of activities that promote positive images and introduce opportunities for them to develop an understanding and acceptance of their own and different cultures;

- staff work well together as a supportive team providing children with a secure environment that promotes early learning.

**What needs to be improved?**

- more opportunities for children to hear music to enhance the already good provision.

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

The nursery has made very good progress. The assessment sheet was enhanced to cover the three areas and this information used to inform the plans. The nursery has further improved on this system and is currently implementing a new more efficient system of assessing children's progress linked to the stepping stones. This is then used to inform their new style plans.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are interested, motivated, confident to try, and are ready to learn, new activities. They come happily into the nursery and have very good relationships with the staff and each other. They are learning to share and take turns. They have an increasing awareness of their own feeling and those of others. Children are developing self-confidence and independence as they choose activities, pour drinks, put on coats and help tidy up. They go for walks and visits to Colchester Zoo.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are able to communicate through talk, gestures and enthusiastically join in rhyming songs. Staff use a phonics book and letter of the week to enable children to link letters with sounds. There is a good range of books: reference books on displays; large books for story-time and books to read for pleasure. Children listen to and enjoy stories and know to hold a book and turn the pages correctly. Children use emergent writing during role-play and practice writing names on drawings.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children can count confidently up to ten and are beginning to recognise and use numbers with increasing confidence. They enthusiastically use songs to practice adding and taking away and use correct words to compare describe position with farm animals. They can compare size and weight of the vegetables. Staff identified this area to work on during their own quality assurance and will be enhancing their already good practice through the EEL project.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children explore a variety of materials and the outside environment going on walks and playing under the trees. Carefully planned activities give children experiences to watch change as ice melts, cornflour is mixed with water, use magnets and compare differences in fruits. They confidently join, build and use a range of tools, materials and recycled boxes. They push buttons on keyboards, telephones and Geo-Safari. Children talk about past events like birthdays and going on holiday.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move freely and safely inside and outside and crawl through a tunnel, climb up, balance on and slide down a climbing frame. They run freely between trees. They are learning how exercise affects their body and about foods that are good for them. Children use a variety of tools, such as scissors, paintbrushes, magnifiers, cutters and rolling pins, with increasing control. They use clay and playdough and have chance to play and explore with pasta, flour, wet and dry sand and woodwork.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children develop their creativity and use imagination through excellent opportunities that staff provide during role-play, action songs, painting and outside play. Children pretend to be flying saucers, at the hairdressers, looking out for monsters, and enact 'Billy Goat Gruff'. However there are few opportunities to hear music. Staff provide natural herbs and fruit so they can examine and explore using the senses. They use facial expressions and comments in response to their experience.

**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: introduce children to a wider range of music to enhance the already good provision.

*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.*