



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 315293

DfES Number: 585495

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	17/01/2005
Inspector Name	Rita Cruddos

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Bloomings Day Nursery
Setting Address	The School House Off Gainsborough Road Warrington Cheshire WA4 6ZE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Lisa Heaps, Alan Thompson and Rona Thompson
Address	Bloomings Day Nursery The School House Off Gainsborough Road Warrington, Cheshire WA4 6ZE

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

Bloomings Day Nursery opened in 1997. It is situated on the edge of Warrington, close to the village of Stockton Heath. The building has been sympathetically converted, and provides accommodation on two floors. A recent extension has been added to provide a baby unit. A maximum of 55 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The outdoor play space is fully enclosed and the nursery is situated next to a park.

The nursery is open each weekday from 08:00 until 18:00 throughout the year. There are currently 68 children from birth to under five years on roll. Of these 23 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area and parents travel in to work in or around Warrington.

The nursery employs 16 staff. Of these, 12 including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications and three are working towards a qualification. The setting receives support from Warrington Sure Start Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Bloomings Day Nursery provides good quality care for children. The well qualified and motivated staff team provide a warm and welcoming environment for children and make good use of the available space and resources. Staff and children form very good relationships and the children are happy and secure within the setting. Staff have good practical childcare skills and undertake regular training in order to improve and build on these. All the required documentation is in place and kept to a high standard.

Positive steps are taken to ensure safety and prevent accidents within the setting. Regular risk assessments and checks of the premises and equipment are completed. Most staff have appropriate first aid training and all are aware of child protection procedures. Good hygiene practices are encouraged and healthy, nutritious meals and snacks are provided.

The nursery offers a very good range of planned activities both indoors and out for the children. Resources are accessible and reflect positively culture, gender, ethnicity and disability. This enhances the children's view of the wider world around them. Children enjoy their time at the nursery and have fun exploring and investigating their environment.

Good relationships are established with parents who are encouraged to participate in the assessment and evaluation of their child's progress. Parents and staff complete a Home-Nursery Link book and All About Me sheets. A notice board is provided for parents which displays information about the setting. A copy of the nursery policies and information regarding the Early Learning Goals is in place at the nursery entrance for parents use.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection it was agreed that the range of toys and equipment be increased in order that children develop a wider understanding of different cultures, races and abilities. Toys and resources are now in place that reflect positive images of culture, gender, ethnicity and disability thus giving the children a balanced view of the world around them. Activities also reflect diversity and children participate a large number of cultural events and festivals.

What is being done well?

- Staff make good use of the available space defining separate areas for play and storage of toys and equipment. These are stored at the children's level and the children select toys and games to extend their play.
- Resources are accessible in the bright and airy baby room where the babies are encouraged to participate in a range of stimulating and enjoyable activities.
- Staff are deployed effectively and work well as a team. They plan activities that enable children to develop their skills and become independent learners.
- Regular risk assessments are completed ensuring children are able to play safely. Staff are aware of the systems that are in place in regard to the safety of the children and they encourage children to have good hygiene practices.
- Good relationships are maintained with parents through various methods. These include Home-Nursery Links Books, news letters, and displays of the settings policies and procedures. Parents are involved in the completion of individual children's development records.

What needs to be improved?

- the accessibility of first aid equipment in the pre-school area.

PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out

from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)

There are no complaints to report.

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
7	Ensure that a first aid box is accessible in the pre-school room.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The nursery education provided at Bloomings Day Nursery is of high quality. Children make very good progress towards the early learning goals in all six areas of learning. The children are happy, confident, secure and enjoy being involved in a wide range of activities.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a sound knowledge of the early learning goals and how children learn. Staff observe the children and plan a broad curriculum covering the six areas of learning based on the children's knowledge, interests and needs. Staff know the children well and they are good role models who support, encourage and challenge the children's learning and thinking. Staff have high expectations of the children and give them lots of opportunities to develop and succeed. Children have time to play and consolidate their learning through planned and spontaneous activities. The nursery has forged links with the community and children have regular opportunities to explore their wider environment.

The leadership and management of the setting is very good. The staff team work very well, are supportive to each other and are clear about their roles and responsibilities. A positive learning environment is provided for the children and staff are knowledgeable about the policies and procedures that are in place to ensure the effective operation of the nursery. Systems are in place to monitor and evaluate the provision and also to maximise training opportunities available for staff.

Partnerships with parents are very good. They are provided with information about the setting, the Foundation Stage and the planned activities. Children's progress is shared regularly through meetings, children's individual information files and daily feedback. Parents are actively involved in their children's learning and assessments.

What is being done well?

- Staff have high expectations of the children and encourage them to behave well through reinforcing good behaviour and raising the children's self esteem. The staff are very good role models and encourage the children to support each other and share.
- Staff have a very good understanding of the Foundation Stage and how children learn. They provide stimulating and exciting learning experiences for the children that are fun and enjoyable. Staff encourage the children to think and use reasoning in order to achieve their goals giving them time and space in order to do this.
- Children are confident speakers and relate well to each other and to adults. They are confident and interested in what happens around them. They talk about what they are doing, what happens outside of the setting and join in songs and stories with enthusiasm. They are learning about their own and

different cultures through celebrations such as Diwali and Chinese New Year to name but two. Other learning experiences include regular Spanish lessons.

- Children confidently recognise familiar letters and sounds. Their learning is reinforced through games, songs and the use of computer programmes which the children use independently.
- Parents have access to all information about the setting. Information in regard to the Foundation Stage, long, medium and short term plans and their links to the E.L.G.'s is displayed. Parents also work with the staff to complete children's individual assessments and Home/Nursery Link books.

What needs to be improved?

- the use of children's work in displays
- the further development of number in displays in order to fully support the children's mathematical awareness.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Very good progress has been made since the last inspection on the two key issues identified. The first key issue was to provide parents with further opportunities to share what they know about their child. The second key issue was to ensure that assessments record the children's progress towards the early learning goals and show how this information is used to guide planning and teaching. Parents have frequent opportunities to share information about their child. "I can do" books are completed at home prior to a child attending the setting. Parents are also involved in completing the children's individual learning profiles. Information in regard to the children's progress is shared on a regular basis and parents views are continually sought. Continuous assessment takes place to record the children's progress along the stepping stones. These assessments are used by the staff team to inform future planning for the next steps in the children's learning.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are happy, content and confident. They are well motivated and operate independently, selecting resources for themselves. They express their needs and feelings confidently. At group time children join in and talk about what makes them feel happy. Children are well behaved and work well together, they help and encourage less able children. Children have a positive self-image and learn about their own and other cultures through activities and discussions.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children confidently speak to visitors and peers about recent events in their lives. Through a self-registration scheme children are learning to recognise their own names and individual letter sounds. Children make good use of the opportunities for writing and mark making within the setting. Children join in animated stories such as The Three Little Pigs. They join in the refrain, laugh and encourage each other to get a little bit nearer to the wolf. They clap and shout with glee.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children count and solve mathematical problems in planned and everyday activities. Some children count confidently and reliably up to 10 and beyond, recognise, write and name numbers up to 10. More able children extend the activities by matching colour and sorting "Colour Men" into size and match the number using numeral cards. Children pattern make using threading skills or when creating collage work. They recognise shapes and confidently name spheres and rectangles in the environment.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

The children take up the good opportunities to explore and investigate; they measure, examine and photograph the environment. Children make good use of the computer. Through themed activities the children learn about their lives both past and present and begin to recognise and respect differences in one another. They celebrate different cultural festivals, are learning to speak Spanish and can explain what happens when the canal bridge is turned and the effect this has.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
------------	-----------

Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills. Indoor and outdoor climbing, balancing and sliding equipment is in place. Children are free to move around their environment and they negotiate hazards safely. They are beginning to recognise the changes that occur to their bodies when they are playing or when they are outside in the cold. They have an increased awareness of healthy eating and hygiene through activities and discussions. They use tools and materials confidently.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
------------	-----------

Children are able to explore texture, colour, shape and form through planned and free activities using innovative resources designed by staff. The children have opportunities to build with a variety of construction materials both commercial and recycled, and of different sizes. They move materials around the room to make their own play and create their own props. Children join in songs and rhymes with increasing confidence and are able to use materials to shape, design and make patterns.

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, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- the use of number and the children's own work in displays to further enhance and consolidate their 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.

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.