



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 100545

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/01/2004
Inspector Name	Catherine Greene

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Oliver's Montessori Nursery School
Setting Address	52 Belsize Square London NW3 4HN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Katherine Jane Johnston
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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. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

Oliver's Montessori Nursery School opened in 1985 the premises are situated in the grounds of St. Peter's Church in the Belsize Park area.

The service operates from a purpose built building that consists of a large activity room, kitchen, toilet/washroom and an office. There is a fully enclosed outside play area, with large play equipment.

There are currently 20 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 13 funded 3 to 5 year olds. Some children attend on a full time basis whilst others attend part-time. The setting supports children with Special Needs and children who speaks English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week from 09:00 to 15:00 and on a sessional basis 09:00 - 12 mid day and from 12 midday to 15:00 during school term times.

6 full time staff work with the children and all of them have a childcare qualification.

How good is the Day Care?

Olivers Montessori nursery provides good quality childcare for children aged 2-5 years.

The nursery is well organised with clear policy documents supporting the nursery aims. There is an established and well qualified staff team who work closely together delegating responsibilities, sharing skills and supporting each others professional development and childcare practice.

A balance of good quality play things, books and natural materials based on the Montessori method of teaching are available. There are examples of children's creative work displayed. These relate to different areas of learning covered by themes that are used to extend children's learning across different areas of the curriculum.

A stimulating environment means children enjoy the activities available. Staff are committed to children's emotional well being, social development and enjoyment of

the group. This is reflected by the children who present as confident and happy in the environment. The nursery is well resourced and staff organise the activities well to ensure children's safety. Maintenance of the building and cleaning standards is generally good. There are some maintenance issues in the toilet and kitchen and the flooring throughout the nursery has built up dirt particularly at the edges. Staff members carry out daily risk assessments and some cleaning duties.

A member of staff is responsible for children with special needs. Staff show a good understanding of working with children with special educational needs. There are effective procedures in place to support children with SEN and to work with parents and outside agencies, to ensure children receive appropriate support. Behaviour management is consistent and this has a positive impact on children's development.

The Parents Handbook has clear policies and procedures for the smooth, safe running of the service and promotes a good understanding of relationship between the parents, children and staff.

What has improved since the last inspection?

A child protection procedure has been made available to parents.

What is being done well?

- Curriculum planning is well-organised to provide children with a range of play opportunities relating to their learning and developmental needs. Activities encourage children to make choices and engage in stimulating play. The nursery offers a stimulating environment. Staff plan the activities well, based on a good knowledge of what children like to do and their stage of development.
- There are clear policy documents supporting the nurseries aims and objectives.
- Children are provided with a large and varied range of toys and play material, including those aimed at promoting positive images of people of different religions, cultures, genders, social backgrounds and disabilities.
- Staff consistently manage children's behaviour in a positive manner, using praise to re-enforce good behaviour.
- The Parents handbook has clear policies and procedures for the smooth, safe running of the service and promotes a good understanding of relationship between the parents, children and staff. The staff have regular meetings with the parents to discuss their children's overall learning and development.

What needs to be improved?

- Cleaning and maintenance to ensure floors are clean, kitchen cupboards have doors and toilet seats have sealed washable surfaces and do not have

pieces broken off.

- A record is maintained of visitors to the nursery.

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
2	Ensure that a record of all visitors is kept
4	ensure that the flooring throughout the building is deep cleaned and maintained to an adequate standard
4	ensure that worn toilet seats are replaced
4	ensure kitchen cupboard doors are replaced

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.