



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 129049

DfES Number: 584180

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	09/10/2003
Inspector Name	Judith Harris

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Sankofa
Setting Address	14 Sharratt Street Peckham London SE15 1NR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Ms Joyce Baptiste
------	-------------------

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

Sankofa is a privately run day nursery which serves families from the local residential area. It operates from purpose-built, detached, premises in Peckham, which are rented from Lewisham Council. The group room is open-plan and has a secluded area which is used for group stories and songs as well as for those requiring a sleep after lunch. In addition, there is a kitchen, an office and suitable toilet facilities. There is an enclosed outdoor play area, partially covered with a rubber safety surface.

The nursery is sustained by the fees paid and funded places are available for three and four year old children. Children generally attend on a full time basis although part time places are also offered.

The nursery provides 20 places for children aged between two and four years. It opens from 08:00hrs until 18:00hrs Monday-Friday, 52 weeks of the year.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Sankofa Nursery is a warm and welcoming environment in which the staff use resources to plan and provide a range of activities and experiences that support children's learning and allow them to make generally good progress towards all the early learning goals (elg).

Their teaching is generally good. Staff have an understanding of the elgs, planning is used effectively and clearly links to activities and learning intentions. Adults interact well with the children and good use is made of open questions to challenge the children and extend their thought processes. There are some missed teaching opportunities in all areas, as not all adults are making use of planned and naturally occurring situations to extend children's learning. Children are generally well behaved and adult intervention is at an appropriate level.

The management and leadership of the nursery is generally good. The manager works in partnership with the proprietor and both are committed to monitoring and improving the care and education of the children. The nursery use a system of recording and evaluating activities, which allows staff and management to assess the educational value and find areas for improvement. Staff are involved in the monitoring process through staff meetings.

The nursery's partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are provided with good quality information about the setting and the elgs. Staff hold bi-annual meetings with parents to share information about children's progress. Parents are welcomed into the nursery, however they would benefit from being more directly involved in their children's learning.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal social and emotional skills are developing well; children are developing self-confidence and self-control.
- Children are developing well in the area of communication, language and literacy; they speak clearly and are developing an understanding of the written word.
- Children are developing a knowledge and understanding of the world through well planned activities that allow children to explore and investigate.
- Children are confident in the area of physical development using large and small equipment and tools safely and with control.
- The management and leadership positively supports staff and there is a high level of commitment to monitoring and improving the care and education of the children.

What needs to be improved?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provide more opportunities for children to learn about different cultures and beliefs.● Provide more challenges to help children develop their language for thinking.● Provide more opportunities to develop children's mathematical skills in the area of calculation.● Provide opportunities for children to develop an understanding of health and awareness of their bodies.● Provide children with more opportunities to explore shape, texture, colour and form.● Ensure all staff have a sound understanding of the stepping stones leading to the elg's.

What has improved since the last inspection?
No previous report published on internet

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children's progress in personal, social and emotional development is generally good, the children are confident, motivated and well behaved. They are making good relationships with adults and peers, they play co-operatively, sharing and taking turns. Children would benefit from more opportunities to gain a sense of different cultures and beliefs.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children make generally good progress in communication, language and literacy. They speak clearly and listen well. The children are provided with opportunities to practise writing skills at a variety of activities. Planning includes activities that support linking sounds and letters and providing opportunities for children to explore print and text. Children would benefit from more opportunities to extend their language for thinking.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children make generally good progress in the area of mathematical development. They are able to count with confidence and activities include opportunities to develop mathematical ideas and problem solving skills. Children are given opportunities to look at and talk about shape and pattern. Children would benefit from more opportunities to develop an understanding of calculation.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children's knowledge and understanding of the world is generally good. Through planned activities children are given lots of opportunities to explore and investigate, using events, materials and living things. Children are developing skills for designing and making and using technology. Children talk about past events, people in their lives and their environment. There are too few opportunities for children to develop an understanding of a variety of cultures and beliefs.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children make generally good progress in the area of physical development, they move with confidence and control and in a variety of ways. Children are given opportunities to use a variety of large and small equipment and tools. The children would benefit from more opportunities to gain an awareness of changes in their bodies and the importance of staying healthy.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
<p>Children's creative development is generally good. They are provided with opportunities to use their imagination, to communicate ideas and express themselves through music, dance and role-play. Children are encouraged to explore music, sounds, songs and stories. Children have opportunities to respond to experiences and think about their senses. There are some opportunities for exploring colour, shape, texture and form but children would benefit from further extending in this area.</p>	

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

OUTCOME OF THE INSPECTION

The provision is acceptable and is of good quality overall. Children are making generally 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: THE KEY ISSUES

- No significant weaknesses have been identified at this inspection but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- Provide more opportunities for children to learn about different cultures and beliefs.
- Provide more opportunities to develop children's mathematical skills in the area of calculation.
- Ensure all staff have a sound understanding of the stepping stones leading to the elg's.

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.