



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 301766

DfES Number: 520004

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	17/06/2003
Inspector Name	Ann Marie Lefevre

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Park House Nursery
Setting Address	Pont Park Ponteland Newcastle Upon Tyne NE20 0JY

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Eileen Appleby
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Mrs Eileen Appleby
Address	Park House Farm Berwick Hill Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne and Wear NE20 0JY

## 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

Park House Day Nursery was registered in January 1995.

It is situated in a rural setting, just outside Ponteland, and provides care for children from the surrounding areas. Care is available in two playrooms. Younger children are accommodated on the first floor and older ones on the ground floor. Two enclosed outside activity areas are also available

The Nursery opening hours are Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 17:30 for full day care. Separate morning and afternoon sessions are also available. The nursery is able to provide care for children with special needs and those who have English as an additional language. There are 10 three year old children and 17 four year old children attending in receipt of funding.

The staff team consists of seven suitably qualified members, in addition to the proprietor/manager. A further member is seeking Ofsted clearance. The nursery also receives support from an early years adviser.

### How good is the Day Care?

Park House Nursery provides good quality care for children. They offer a comfortable, stimulating and welcoming environment where children feel safe, secure and happy. Well structured nursery routines are in place and children respond well to these. The register lacks some clarity, however, overall policies, procedures and records are well maintained.

The staff develop excellent relationships with the children, and offer a range of interesting and fun activities so that children can learn effectively through play. There is a wide selection of age appropriate play resources and equipment. Activities are planned, but there is flexibility which allows for children's preferences and their stages of development.

Children are polite and well behaved. Children's behaviour is well managed by staff

and staff are aware of the need to take positive steps when dealing with unacceptable behaviour.

Partnership with parents is very good, as staff provide a wide range of useful information and opportunities for parents to discuss and monitor children's progress. The parents interviewed spoke positively about the care their children receive.

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

At the previous inspection the nursery agreed to add further details to the written records of medication administered, this is now in place.

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

- The staff team are committed to developing their own child care practice, and they have participated in a wide range of training initiatives. They have a positive attitude to developing knowledge and skills.
- Staff provide many interesting and stimulating activities. The children enjoy attending and are comfortable with the staff and with each other.
- A comprehensive system is place in relation to health, safety and hygiene which meets the needs of all children attending.
- The provision of food in the nursery is well organised so that all children are able to have pleasurable as well as nutritious meal times.
- Parents are kept very well informed about the nursery setting, and about the progress their children are making.
- There are good recording systems, comprehensive policies and procedures, and other useful information in place.

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

- the register, so that there is a drawn line between the totals of children actually present at the morning and afternoon sessions.

#### **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 the register is clearly divided by a line drawn between the totals of children actually present at morning and afternoon sessions.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Park House Nursery provides a very happy environment where overall children are making good progress towards the early learning goals. They make very good progress in personal, social and emotional development, communication, language and literacy, knowledge and understanding of the world and in physical development. In mathematical and creative development children make generally good progress.

The quality of teaching is good. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals and support for children with special educational needs is very good. Planning is very detailed and provides children with an interesting and varied range of topics. The play areas are arranged well to encourage decision making and independence. The management of children is good. Although there are good resources and planning, some activities could do better with smaller grouping, as some groups are too large which results in younger children especially becoming distracted.

The leadership and management is good. The positive approach of the manager is reflected throughout the entire provision. Staff are enthusiastic and committed to providing good care and educational opportunities to all children. An appraisal system encourages staff self assessment and regular training is a key feature of staff development. However, the assessment of the effectiveness of the education provision has some weaknesses resulting in some inappropriate challenge for children.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are provided with thorough and detailed information about the setting and their child's development. There are regular opportunities to discuss progress with the child's key worker. There is opportunity for informal exchange of information at the beginning and end of sessions. Regular newsletters and discussions encourage parents to be involved with their child's learning.

### What is being done well?

- Personal, social and emotional development is a strength of the nursery where children develop confidence, independence and a sense of self worth.
- Children have an enthusiasm for books and show good early reading skills and speak very well because of the regular opportunities they receive to develop skills.
- Physical development is well provided and children use a wide range of indoor and outdoor equipment to develop good coordination and balance.

- Staff plan and provide a good range of stimulating and interesting activities for the children.
- There is a very strong commitment to partnership with parents which results in parents being very well informed about the nursery and developing good relationships with staff.

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

- Planning for large group activities to ensure children are appropriately challenged.
- Children's mathematical development through the use of everyday routines.

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

Progress on the issue raised at the last inspection has been very good. Children now have opportunities to look closely at growth by comparing their own growth and using a bar chart as well as growing plants such as sunflowers

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have very good relationships with adults and each other and develop independence very well. They are very interested in their play and very well motivated to learn. Children behave very well. They show a strong sense of community and their position in it.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children use spoken language very well in planned and self initiated activities. They confidently recognise letters of the alphabet. Children handle books carefully and are developing good early reading and writing skills. Children link sounds to letters very well. They express new ideas confidently, negotiate with each other extremely well and are able to take turns in conversations.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are developing their use of mathematical language through a range of planned activities. They use positional language in a variety of contexts. Children count well and older more able children can count to ten and beyond. Most children are able to recognise and name simple shapes. However children are given limited opportunities to extend their use of mathematical ideas in everyday activities.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children receive very good opportunities to observe, find out about and identify features in the place in which they live and the natural world, for example learning how plants grow. Children confidently select available resources. They observe and manipulate objects very well, cutting and building for a purpose. They enthusiastically learn about themselves and the world around them by celebrating different culture and festivals.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children receive many opportunities to have regular exercise and are developing very good skills in movement, balance and coordination. They effectively learn about their body and being healthy. They skilfully use a range of small tools and construction equipment. They respond very well to rhythm and music, moving with pleasure and confidence. Children independently use a range of large and small equipment well, they manipulate materials well to achieve the planned effect.

<b>CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children use a good range of equipment to explore their sense of smell and touch. They express their ideas and thoughts with confidence through imaginative play and music, however there are few opportunities to extend their imagination in role play. They join in with favourite songs and play musical instruments enthusiastically.	
<b>Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.</b>	



### **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**

- Ensure that planning and delivery of large group activities gives appropriate challenge for children, especially younger children, so that these activities are set at the appropriate level of understanding and development for all children involved in them.
- Extend children's learning in mathematics by providing opportunities within routines and naturally occurring situations.

*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.*