



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY234473

DfES Number:

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	17/06/2003
Inspector Name	Linda Bagnall

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Sunflowers Day Nursery
Setting Address	Mount View Standard Way Northallerton DL6 2XE

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Warnes Nurseries Northallerton Ltd 04215936
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Warnes Nurseries Northallerton Ltd
Address	Sunflowers Day Nursery Low Wath Road Pateley Bridge HG3 5HL

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

Sunflowers Day Nursery was registered in September 2002. It is a purpose built facility located within an industrial park in Northallerton. Another nursery owned by the proprietors is located in Pateley Bridge.

Full day-care is provided for a maximum of 60 children aged from 3 months to five years and includes Out of School care for children aged up to 8 years. Eighteen of the children attending the nursery may be aged 0 to 2 years old. There are 27 children aged between 3 and 4 years; 21 three year olds and six 4 year olds, this includes children with special needs. There are no children with English as an additional language.

The nursery is divided into separate units for the age ranges 0-2 years; 2-3 years; 3-5 years and 5-8 years. All units have their own rooms and access to secure outdoor play areas.

Opening hours are from Monday - Friday: 7.30am - 6.00pm.

Sunflowers Day Nursery is registered to receive Nursery Education funding for 3 and 4 year olds.

There are 18 members of staff, 10 of whom currently hold relevant childcare qualifications, several other members of staff are working towards these.

How good is the Day Care?

Sunflowers Day Nursery provides good quality day care for children. Appropriate staff ratios and qualifications are maintained throughout the setting organised by a dedicated team. A sound knowledge of the National Standards is evident throughout the setting. Rooms are well organised to offer a good variety of play opportunities with many resources available at child height.

Comprehensive risk assessments are undertaken to ensure children are safe and well cared for. There is an effective security system in place. Some minor hygiene

issues require attention however overall hygiene standards in the nursery are good with some very good aspects. Meals are provided by rota staff who hold basic food hygiene certificates. Staff address the individual needs of children sensitively. There are dedicated staff members for special needs and child protection.

All children are encouraged to take part in activities lead by enthusiastic staff. Daily report sheets are used to record individual children's activities and inform parents. Space within the setting is organised well. Children's needs are addressed sensitively and efficiently. Behaviour is managed well using positive language and encouragement.

Good relationships exist between staff and parents, who are welcome to visit the setting at any time. A comprehensive guide to the nursery is provided to all parents as well as regular newsletters and daily records for each child. There are clear procedures and policies in place which are very well detailed.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Previous registration requirements have been met appropriately for building regulations, environmental health and fire safety.

What is being done well?

- Recruitment procedures are very detailed and effective. (standard 1)
- There is good interaction between staff, children and parents. (standard 3 & 12)
- Space is utilised well within the setting to incorporate the baby unit, toddler unit, pre-school and after school areas. A good range of resources and equipment is provided catering for the needs of all the children attending. (standard 4 & 5)
- There is a very effective system for assessing children's individual needs. The use of daily records provides important links for parents as it enables them to see at a glance the activities which their children have been involved in. Good relationships are evident between parents and staff. (standard 9,12 &14)
- Staff work as a team to build children's confidence using discussion & encouragement. (standard 2 & 3)
- There are very detailed policies and procedures in place covering all aspects of child care and incorporating the National Standards. (all standards)

An aspect of outstanding practice:

Very good standards are maintained within the baby unit which also benefits from the nursery's under floor heating and clean air filtration system. Children are happy and settled, with good access to a variety of appropriate equipment. Rooms within the unit are maintained to very good hygiene standards and divided sensitively to provide areas for young babies, mobile babies, a craft / dining area, kitchenette,

changing area and a sleep room. Low level furniture is provided as well as appropriate toys to enable babies of all ages to benefit from stimulation and to encourage independence.

What needs to be improved?

- maintenance of nappy changing equipment within the main toilet block. (standard 7)
- storage of cleaning equipment to minimise the risk of cross infection. (standard 6)
- security of the baby unit outdoor play area.(standard 6)
- cleaning procedures within the main kitchen and toddler unit.(standard 7)
- staff awareness when checking medication and the policy details regarding emergency medical treatment.(standard 7)
- emergency evacuation record keeping (standard 6)

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
6	ensure the outdoor fencing surrounding the baby unit is fully secure.
6	ensure cleaning equipment is stored appropriately in order to minimise the risk of cross infection.
6	ensure emergency evacuation records are kept up to date
7	ensure the nappy changing equipment within the main toilet block is well maintained.
7	implement effective cleaning procedures within the main kitchen and toddler unit.
7	ensure staff are fully aware of medication procedures.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals. They are provided with a suitable range of resources to encourage their development in all six areas of learning. Staff have a very good knowledge and understanding of the Foundation Stage Curriculum and are developing an appropriate planning system. The details within the mid term planning are particularly effective and include children with special needs and for whom English is an additional language.

Teaching overall is generally good, children interact well and receive guidance from staff. Children's behaviour is managed positively through discussion and liaison with parents. Sometimes children, both 3 and 4 year olds are not presented with sufficient opportunities to find out more for themselves or take responsibility for their own actions.

Leadership and management within the setting is very good. The nursery is relatively new and continuing to develop under the competent guidance provided by the owners and manager. Dedicated and enthusiastic staff work well together as a team and show a commitment to improving the care and education of the children attending. There are some limitations with the staff approach regarding evaluating and monitoring weakness within the provision.

A good partnership has been established with parents. Parents are provided with regular newsletters and daily records of their child's activities as well as being able to visit the setting at any time. Detailed children's records are available for parents which reflect their child's progress but currently not any regressive steps which may require addressing.

What is being done well?

- Organisation within the setting ensures good staff: child ratios are maintained at all times as well as at least 50% of the staff holding relevant childcare qualifications.
- Children are provided with clear explanations regarding events that happen both inside and outside the nursery.
- Staff encourage conversation with children by regularly posing questions and encouraging answers.
- Space is well utilised within the provision to offer different experiences including a quiet room and an upstairs room which is available for music and movement sessions.
- Children have access to a variety of resources including technology to help develop their learning further.
- The management and leadership within the setting is used effectively to

promote good quality standards throughout the setting.

- Planning is being developed well to encourage children's learning following the curriculum guidance.
- A good partnership with parents is in place. Parents and carers are welcome to visit at any time and are met by friendly staff.

What needs to be improved?

- Further opportunities for children to develop their own independence and take responsibility for their own actions.
- Children's assessment records to encompass all aspects of learning.
- Assessment of the settings own strengths and weaknesses.
- Access to resources for older or more able children when using the after school room.
- Opportunities for children to develop more self awareness.
- Maintenance of some resources e.g. jigsaws and books.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are making generally good progress in personal, social and emotional development. They are confident and enjoy many opportunities for discussion with staff and each other. Clear explanations are provided to children regarding events that happen both inside and outside the nursery. Sometimes children are not presented with sufficient opportunities to find out for themselves or take responsibility for their own actions.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in communication, language and literacy. A good variety of wall displays are evident incorporating themes and children's own work. Staff provide regular opportunities for conversations to develop. Many resources are available to encourage communication through discussion, visual aids and technology. Children have free access to a very good range of writing and drawing materials and can practise writing their own names using personalised placemats.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are making generally good progress in mathematical development. They use computer programs to develop their problem solving abilities. Good strategies are in place to liaise with parents to develop children's mathematical skills using steady progressive steps. Children are encouraged to use counting in spontaneous activities as well as planned events. Some resources are not complete and therefore limit children's learning e.g. some jigsaws and some books.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are making generally good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world with some very good aspects. They are encouraged to be aware of their own environment e.g. watching the traffic outside and identifying surrounding noises. A good variety of equipment is available for children to discover how things work. Children enjoy joining in with discussions regarding past and present events. Sometimes immediate resources in the after school room are limited.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are making generally good progress in physical development. A dedicated outdoor play area is available which offers a variety of play opportunities. Indoor space is well utilised within the provision to offer different settings. These include a main play room, quiet room and an upstairs room which is also used for music and movement sessions where children are able to move confidently and imaginatively. There are some minor limitations in the development of children's self awareness.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are making generally good progress in creative development. They are able to freely access a very good range of creative opportunities which include play dough, water play, music, computer, glue, paper, scissors and free painting. Additional accessories can be requested to aid creativity further. Rooms are well organised to support current themes. Craft activities are simple and cater for all the children however challenges for older or more able children could be developed further.

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

- Provide further opportunities for children to develop their own independence and take responsibility for their own actions.
- Ensure children's assessment records encompass all aspects of learning.
- Devise a system of assessment to show the settings own strengths and weaknesses.
- Ensure children using the after school room are aware of available resources.
- Provide opportunities for children to develop more self awareness.
- Ensure resources are adequately maintained.

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.