



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY242922

DfES Number: 516990

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/11/2002
Inspector Name	Kate Bryan

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Brunts Farmhouse
Setting Address	East End Long Clawson Melton Mowbray Leicestershire LE14 4NG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Jonathan Bailey-Cowen & Belinda Bailey-Cowen
Address	7 East End Long Clawson Melton Mowbray Leicestershire LE14 4NG

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

Brunts Farmhouse opened in 1990 and operates from the converted stable block of a farmhouse in the village of Long Clawson. Four main rooms are used for childcare, together with an additional wet play area, toilet and nappy changing facilities and enclosed outdoor play area. Office and kitchen facilities are situated within the nursery, with laundry facilities in the main house.

The nursery serves a wide area in the Vale of Belvoir and neighbouring counties.

It is registered to provide full day care to 33 children aged from nought to eight years. There are currently 43 children on roll. This includes nine funded

three-year-olds and 12 funded

four-year-olds. Children attend a variety of full days each week. Children with special needs are supported.

Brunts Farmhouse operates within the hours of 8.00am. to 6.00pm. Monday to Friday, throughout the year.

There are currently 16 childcare staff including the proprietor/officer in charge. Six staff hold childcare qualifications at level three, with a further seven undertaking training at level two or three.

The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and has an Investor in People Award.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Brunts Farmhouse Nursery provides a stimulating environment where children are making good progress towards the early learning goals. The quality of teaching is very good and a curriculum manager is in place to oversee planning. All staff have input into planning. All areas of learning are covered and all staff are encouraged to record children's progress. Gaps in provision are identified at staff meetings and these are addressed. There are some missed opportunities in the areas of mathematical and physical development to extend challenges for children.

Staff interact well with children and have high expectations of their behaviour. The leadership and management of the nursery is very good and the proprietor provides a clear direction for the staff to work towards. Staff are an effective team and are supported by training opportunities and a system of appraisal geared towards their development.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents receive a good range of information about the nursery and their children and have the opportunity to speak to staff daily and complete a yearly questionnaire. Reports of childrens' progress are completed six monthly and parents have the opportunity for a private meeting with staff monthly. The nursery's policies and procedures are available for staff in the entrance hall and this contains a "Parents as Partners" policy.

What is being done well?

- The nursery has a strong management lead which contributes to a clear direction for staff practice. Training is given a high priority.
- Partnership with parents is given a high priority and good information is disseminated about the children, nursery and curriculum.
- Staff work effectively as a team and provide good role models for children.
- Children are happy, interested and confident and have a range of activities and resources to support play and learning.
- Children and staff interact well and staff have high expectations of children.

What needs to be improved?

- Opportunities to extend challenges for children in the areas of mathematical development and physical development should be maximised.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has continued to provide effective progress for children towards the

early learning goals. The two key issues from the last Ofsted report in March 1999 were:

1. Develop a policy for responding to children's special educational needs which has regard to the Dfee Code of Practice. Ensure that all staff are aware of the procedures.
2. Provide more information for parents about the educational programme, giving details of how learning is promoted through a range of activities.

These issues have been actioned and implemented.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in this area. Children are able to work in groups and independently and are aware of turn taking and sharing. Children develop good relationships with their peers and adults and are confident to express their needs and ideas in groups. Some children are able to accept responsibility for their individual actions.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in this area is very good. Children are able to negotiate and express ideas, some children are able to effectively direct their peers and staff. Children are able to make links between stories and their own knowledge of the world and are able to link written letters with words.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's mathematical development is generally good. Children are able to use numbers in everyday situations and are progressing in using mathematical language to accurately describe situations. There is a lack of challenge in some activities for the more able children.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in this area is very good. Children use the computer to good effect to support other areas of learning. Children are developing a good awareness of their own world and their place in it and other cultures.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's physical development is generally good. Children move confidently and in safety and have access to a range of resources to develop their motor skills. Children are aware of their own space and their relationship to other children. There are missed opportunities to extend children's learning by engaging them in more challenging activities.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's creative development is very good. Children respond well to opportunities offered for role play and are linking elements of song and drama to produce plays. Children are able to explore colour, texture and shape through a range of resources.

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 are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- Develop and extend challenges for children in the areas of mathematical development and physical development.

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.