



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY269792

DfES Number:

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/08/2004  
Inspector Name Deborah Jane Starr

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name The Covey Nursery  
Setting Address Unit 6, Baileys Court  
Webbs Wood Road, Bradley Stoke  
Bristol  
Avon  
BS32 8EJ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Sheila Frances Partridge

## 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

The Covey Nursery was registered in September 2003 and is a privately owned company. The nursery is located on the first floor of a self contained unit on a small commercial estate in Bradley Stoke, there are close links with The Covey Pre School, situated opposite, which opened in 1993.

The nursery offers care from 08:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday for 50 weeks of the year. Children attend from the local and wider geographical areas of Bristol.

There are currently 65 children on roll of whom there are 5 three-year-olds and 14 four-year-olds who are in receipt of funding. The nursery offers care to children with special educational needs and for whom English is an additional language.

There are 16 members of staff who work with the children, two qualified teachers, eight who hold level three qualifications, five unqualified staff and one partner of the company with management experience.

The nursery has close links with a wide range of local support agencies and the Early Years Development in Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

The Covey Nursery provides good quality care for children. The management team are committed to supporting staff to develop their skills and knowledge through on-going training. Most staff have a good knowledge of policies and procedures however some staff have a limited understanding of medication procedures. The nursery is well organised. Careful consideration is given to creating an accessible and flexible environment in which all children can make choices from the wide range of toys and equipment.

Staff create a safe and caring environment they are vigilant in their regular monitoring of health and safety of all aspects of the nursery. Staff promote good health and hygiene practices throughout the nursery, such as washing hands. Staff

work sensitively and effectively with children to meet their individual needs, working closely with parents and other agencies.

Staff working with babies and young children have a flexible approach. They give very close attention to meeting the individual needs of children for eating, sleeping, nappy changing and attending their medical needs. Clear verbal and written information is shared daily with parents. Staff offer a varied range of activities which stimulate children's senses. There is scope for staff to develop their knowledge and skills further.

Most staff have a good knowledge of child development and how children learn. Children are interested in and enjoy the varied range of activities on offer to them. Staff develop very positive relationships with children and know them well. Children respond well to the calm consistent approach by staff to behaviour management.

Staff work very closely with parents to ensure children are settled and progress in their development. Parents are welcomed into the nursery and find staff approachable. They are provided with comprehensive and clear information about the nursery on a regular basis. Records are clear, accurate, confidential and easily accessible.

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

Non applicable first inspection.

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

- The registration holder is committed to supporting staff to develop their skills and knowledge through training. She regularly monitors staffs practice and in conjunction with external courses offers an extensive range of in-house training.
- The care for children with special educational needs is excellent. Staff work sensitively and effectively with children to meet their individual needs and work closely with parents and other agencies to support children's progress.
- Staff develop very positive relationships with children. They use well thought through strategies in a calm and consistent manner to which children respond well.
- Staff are vigilant in ensuring a safe environment. There are comprehensive risk assessment in place which are regularly monitored by a staff member with designated health and safety responsibilities.
- Staff work very closely with parents who offer strong support for the nursery. They feel able to approach staff and management freely and are able to share information about their children. Parents are provided with comprehensive information about the nursery through a brochure, regular newsletters, parents notice board and regular discussions with staff.

**What needs to be improved?**

- knowledge of staff of procedures prior to administering medication.

**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
7	Ensure that all staff are aware of the procedures for obtaining parental permission prior to administering medication.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

The Covey Nursery offers good quality nursery education overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is generally good with particular strengths in personal and social development and creative development. Staff use good questioning techniques to help children develop their thoughts and ideas and use resources effectively to help children become aware of and sensitive to others. Planning however does not show how all six areas of learning are given sufficient emphasis and ensure that younger children are not offered unrealistic challenges. Assessment records do not show how observations of children's progress are clearly linked to the six areas of learning and stepping stones and are not used to evaluate children's progress. Children's behaviour is very good. The support for children with special educational needs is excellent. Staff work very closely with parents and other professionals to ensure inclusion and support for children.

The leadership and management is generally good. The registration holder works closely with her management team to provide strong leadership and clear direction. They are committed to their own on-going professional development and to supporting staff to develop their knowledge and skills through training. The management team regularly review the strengths and weaknesses within the nursery and are implementing on-going strategies to address these, so as to improve the nursery education and care for all children.

The partnership with parents is generally good. Parents receive comprehensive information about the nursery including policies and procedures. However parents are given limited information about the foundation stage curriculum and how it is implemented within the activities offered. Parents give strong support for the nursery, however there are limited opportunities for them to become actively involved with their child's learning.

### What is being done well?

- Children are making very good progress in several areas of learning; personal, social and emotional development and creative development. Children are confident, interested to try activities, relate well to each other and adults and express their thoughts and ideas through their play.
- The support for children with special educational needs is excellent. Staff work closely with parents and other professionals to ensure children are making progress in their learning.
- The regular monitoring of the service and support given to staff by the registration holder demonstrates the nurseries commitment to improving the quality of care and learning opportunities for children.

**What needs to be improved?**

- planning to show how all areas of learning are given sufficient emphasis and ensure that all children are offered appropriate challenges
- children's records of assessment so that observations are clearly linked to the areas of learning and stepping stones and evaluations of children's progress are undertaken in all six areas of learning
- increase opportunities for parents to be better informed about foundation stage curriculum and to be actively involved with their child's learning.

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

Non applicable, first inspection

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children sit and listen well, are interested to try new activities and are settled and confident. They are starting to make choices and are developing their concentration skills. Children relate well to each other, they share, take turns and are becoming sensitive towards others; they are starting to work co-operatively together at tidy up time. Children approach adults with confidence, they know what is expected of them, their behaviour is good. They are gaining independence in their self care.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children enjoy listening to and joining in songs and stories. They talk about what they are doing and thinking, such as playing a game. Children know that print has meaning, they enjoy looking at books, more able children can recognise their name. Opportunities for children to link sound and letters and use books for reference are limited. Children are giving meaning to their marks and are attempting writing. More able children are using this skill for a variety of purposes such as lists.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Most children count confidently up to 10 and more able children relate number to objects. Children are gaining confidence in comparing number through singing songs and combining small groups. Opportunities which extend children's understanding of calculation and problem solving through everyday routines are limited. Children use language to describe size and position. Their recognition of shape is developing well and they relate this to everyday objects. Children copy and create simple patterns.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children observe the effects of change and growth through varied activities such as caring for a rabbit and melting ice. They build, construct and join together a variety of objects using a variety of techniques. Children are gaining a sense of time and talk confidently about past events in their lives. Children's understanding of their local community is developing through visits to local shops, the park and walks. Opportunities for children to gain a sense of the wider world are limited.

## **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are gaining increasing control of their bodies and move confidently and safely in different ways both inside and outside the nursery such as manoeuvring trikes and cars and balancing. Children are gaining an understanding of how to keep themselves healthy, opportunities for children to talk about the effects of activity on their bodies are limited. Children are gaining the skills to use a variety of tools and equipment effectively and safely such as knives, forks and scissors.

## **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children explore texture and colour through a varied range of activities such as marble painting and feely bags. They create their own designs in 2 and 3 D form using junk and salt dough. Children enjoy exploring sound and rhythm through musical instrument, singing songs and music and movement. They spontaneously express their imaginations through their role play, model making and drawing. Children are learning to explore the world through their senses of sight, touch taste and smell.

**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**

- develop planning to show how all areas of learning are given sufficient emphasis and ensure that all children are offered appropriate challenges
- continue to develop children's records of assessment so that observations are clearly linked to the areas of learning and stepping stones and evaluations of children's progress are undertaken in all six areas of learning
- increase opportunities for parents to be better informed about the foundation stage curriculum and to be actively involved with their child's learning.

*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.*