



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 128463

DfES Number: 517799

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	31/03/2004
Inspector Name	Marilyn Rosemary Peacock

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Downshall Pre-school Playgroup.
Setting Address	St John's Church Centre St John's Road Newbury Park Ilford, Essex IG2 7BB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of The Committee of Downshall Pre-School Playgroup 1033589
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Downshall Pre-School Playgroup
Address	St. Johns Church Centre St. Johns Road Newbury Park Ilford, Essex IG2 7BB

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

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Downshall pre school playgroup is acceptable and of high quality. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning. Children are happy, confident and motivated to learn.

The quality of teaching is very good. All staff have a very good understanding of the stepping stones towards the early learning goals. They use this knowledge to plan a good variety of practical activities that children are interested in. Resources are of good quality and well organised to increase children's independence. They are sufficient across all area's. However, the programme for children's knowledge and understanding of the world would be further enhanced if children had more access to programmable toy's and information technology.

Staff work well as a team and have good relationships with the children. There is a strong emphasis on behaviour, staff are consistent in their management strategies and children know right from wrong. Support for children with special educational needs is very good. Peripatetic staff use the child's individual education plans effectively to help children progress. Planning covers all areas of learning and a good balanced curriculum is achieved. However, plans could be strengthened by identifying how activities could be adapted to meet the needs of children that may be more able and quieter children.

The leadership and management of the nursery is very good. A committed, highly motivated staff team has been developed. which has a strong impact on the smooth running of the group. Staff's strengths and weakness are monitored and any training needs identified are promptly actioned.

There is a strong partnership with parents, they are kept well informed of their child's progress at open day's. Plans are displayed in the pre school room for parents to comment on.

What is being done well?

- Children concentrate well at activities they have chosen for themselves. They are motivated to learn in an environment that is happy and supportive.
- Support for children with special needs is very good. Key workers and peripatetic support staff work in partnership with parents and agencies to ensure children achieve their individual targets.
- Children's mathematical understanding are being encouraged through the skilled use of daily routines. Planned activities help children count, recognise numbers and do simple addition and subtraction.
- Relationships between staff and children are very good, staff plan a good variety of activities supported by imaginative use of resources.

What needs to be improved?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Planning to identify how activities can be adapted to met the needs of children that may be more able and quieter children.● Assessment of individual children's progress to inform future planning.● Children's access to programmable toys and information technology.

What has improved since the last inspection?
<p>The preschool has made generally good progress since the last inspection. All staff have attended training and now have a very good understanding of the stepping stones and the early learning goals for children's learning. Planning has been developed and effectively covers all areas of learning and a good balance has been achieved. Assessment records are now regularly shared with parents. Parents also share observation of their child's learning from home. These observations still need to be used to inform planning of the next steps for children.</p>

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Very good progress is being made in this area of learning. Children are forming good relationships with each other and the adults in the group. They work well together, share and take turns. They concentrate well at activities they have selected for themselves. Behaviour is very good children know right from wrong. Children are independent, happy and confident. They are developing strong self esteem.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
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Communication, language and literacy is very good. Children have good opportunities to make symbols and represent their ideas in the written form. They make good use of the office area to practice their early mark making skills. Some children are starting to write their names with the help of staff, who help to link sounds with letters. Children understand how books work. Children's language is being extended by the careful introduction of new words supporting the current theme.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Very good progress is being made in this area of learning. Staff make good opportunities to introduce numbers and counting into everyday routines. Most children recognise number up to 10 and some can confidently count to 20 and above. Children recognise shape in everyday activities, one child identified the triangle bandage in the role play hospital. Children use mathematical language well to illustrate size and measure at the water tray and in stories.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are making very good progress in this area of learning. They have good opportunities to explore the local community when shopping for the milk and fruit for snack time. They are introduced to different cultures through the celebration of festivals like Chinese new year and Passover. They excitedly talk about past and present events in their lives at circle time. Children have good opportunities to observe change and make predictions when looking at changes to ice and when cooking.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children are making very good progress in this area of learning. They use a wide range of tools, equipment and malleable materials skilfully and with increasing control. Good balance coordination and control is demonstrated when using large climbing equipment. Children are skilled at manoeuvring trikes and wheeled toys around the large play room. They are developing a good understanding of keeping healthy when role playing hospitals and when the dentist visited.	

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Very good progress is being made by children in their creative development. They use their imagination well in role play and when exploring music using musical instruments. They express their own ideas creatively using a variety of media, paint, dough, glue and water.	

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 weakness to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- strengthen planning to include more specific detail of how activities will be extended to meet the needs of children who may be more able and children that are quieter.
- continue to develop assessment systems to ensure that the progress of individual children is monitored and used to inform planning.
- further develop the programme for knowledge and understanding of the world by creating more opportunities for children to explore and communicate using programmable toys and information technology

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.