



**Office for Standards  
in Education**

## **COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT**

**URN 135291**

**DfES Number: 583647**

### **INSPECTION DETAILS**

Inspection Date	05/02/2004
Inspector Name	Julia Louise Crowley

### **SETTING DETAILS**

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	GINA'S MONTESSORI NURSERY
Setting Address	140 Morley Hill Enfield Middlesex EN2 0BG

### **REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS**

Name	Miss Gina Ferriter
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## 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

Gina Montessori Nursery School has been opened since 1993. The Nursery is located on the ground floor of a family house, and uses the through lounge, conservatory, toilet and a large secure garden area at the back. The children attending the Nursery come from the local area and beyond.

At present there are 57 children on roll. Of these 35 three year olds receive funding and 7 four year olds. The setting currently is not supporting any funded children with special needs. There are two children who are attending who have English as an additional language. Children attend varying numbers of sessions. The sessions run from 8.30a.m. to 10.45a.m, 11.00a.m. to 13.15, 13.30 to 15.45.

There are two staff working with the children, one of whom is Montessori qualified. The Nursery subscribes to the Montessori educational approach.

The Nursery receives support from the Early Years Development Child Care Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

Gina's Montessori Nursery provides good care for children.

Gina's Montessori Nursery offers good use of space and equipment so that the children are well cared for and supported during the day. The environment is warm and welcoming for the children enabling them to feel valued and confident. The premises and equipment are clean, well maintained and well presented. Children can choose freely from low level shelving, boxes and cupboards, allowing them to make choices independently. The children's records are accessible, stored securely and confidentiality is maintained. The arrangements for sharing records keeps the parents informed about their children's progress.

Gina's Montessori Nursery is risked assessed by the staff at the beginning of everyday, enabling the children to move safely and confidently throughout the

Nursery. Children's understanding of safety is developed through general group discussion.

There is a good range of activities and equipment that enables the children to develop skills and enjoy themselves. The toys are age appropriate and accessible, allowing the children to achieve and be creative. The staff respond to the children's requests and questions, positively and encouraged them to explore solutions for themselves. The staff demonstrate that they are sensitive to the emotional needs of the children and deal with issues in a thoughtful and constructive way. Management of the children's behaviour is dealt with sensitively and is appropriate to the children's understanding and maturity.

The Manager has a good relationship with the parents, which is open and friendly. Parents are well informed about their child and are listened to by the staff. The Nursery places a value on the parents input, so that they can provide a thorough, and positive experience for the children.

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

Not applicable.

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

- Space and resources are used imaginatively to create a stimulating, orderly and supportive environment for the children.
- The staff team respond to the children's requests and questions, positively and encourage them to explore solutions for themselves.
- The range of toys allows the children to make good progress in all aspects of development.
- The staff team demonstrate that they are sensitive to the emotional needs of the children and deals with issues in a thoughtful and constructive way.
- Good hygiene and healthy practises for the children are encouraged.
- Methods of dealing with behaviour are sensitive, appropriate and take into account the children's level of understanding and maturity.

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

- the contingency plans in the absence of the Manager, must be established and formalised.

#### **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 contingency arrangements for staff absences and emergencies are established.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Gina Montessori Nursery School provides a busy happy environment when children are making very good progress towards most of the early learning goals, and generally good progress in physical development. Children enjoy learning through a variety of interesting activities in a calm relaxed atmosphere.

Teaching is very good. Activities are well planned around the early learning goals. Children's thinking and learning are challenged through the planned activities and experiences. Children respond well to the calm approach and high expectations of staff. Staff are skilled in encouraging children to behave well, share and respect each other. There is a good balance of child directed activities and those directed by staff. There is wide range of resources which are well organised to increase children's independence. Staff use resources effectively to enable children to practice and consolidate their learning. Children with special needs receive good support. Planning and assessments are effective, however planning needs to be improved further so it includes more detail how the activity can be adapted for individual children and how children can develop climbing skills.

The management of the Nursery is very good. Strong leadership and staff have clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Staff meet informally to plan and evaluate the quality of teaching, which works effectively as it is a small team.

Partnership with parents are very good. There is regular information given to parents about planned activities and the settings aims and policies. The Nursery have developed good relationships with parents, and they are encouraged to be involved in their child's learning through daily folders returning home with children's work, suggested activities and support in topic work. Parents feedback is very positive.

### What is being done well?

- Children's personal social and emotional development are fostered very well. Children well behaved, they show independence and are very motivated to learn. Staff and children relate well to one another, there is a calm and caring environment.
- Staff encourage children to extend their conversation through good questioning and introducing new vocabulary. There are good opportunities for children to develop writing skills, children can read and write their names.
- Children are given good opportunities through everyday activities to extend their understanding of positional language, number, counting and calculating.
- Children express their ideas freely through a good range of activities such as moving to music, painting, singing and role play.

**What needs to be improved?**

- the short term planning so it includes how the activity can be adapted and modified for individual children's learning needs, the role of the adult and opportunities for climbing.

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

Point for consideration from the previous Inspection was to ensure that children are given the opportunity to learn how to use the large climbing equipment safely and with increasing skill. Due to safety reasons the Nursery have taken the decision not to provide any climbing equipment. They have asked each parent to confirm that their child does have regular access at other times to climbing equipment, and believe that as they are a sessional group this is reasonable.

This continues to be a point for consideration as the Nursery do not give children opportunity to use large equipment and to develop climbing skills, and as this is part of the early learning goals it is expected that it is provided.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are making very good progress in personal, social and emotional development. Children are very confident and their self-esteem is built up by staff, they talk openly about their feelings. Children have good personal independence. Children behaviour is very good, they show each other respect and care for each other. They choose between activities and select resources themselves. They concentrate well, complete tasks.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress in communication, language and literacy. Staff use good questioning and vocabulary as a result children are confident speakers and engage easily in conversations with each other and adults. They use language well in their role play, and retell stories confidently. They are able recognise sounds and letters and words. They listen to stories and enjoy sharing books. Children are interested in writing and are able to write their names and simple sentences.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are making very good progress in mathematical development. Children are given good opportunities through everyday activities to extend their understanding of number, shape, size and position. As a result children can count to 10 and beyond, they are beginning to add and subtract and solve practical problems. Children are confident and able to recognise shapes, position, quantity and can compare sizes successfully.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children are making very good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world. Children can operate simple computer programmes. They talk about themselves and family. They explore the natural world by seeing how things grow. They are introduced to other cultures through events, festivals and resources. Children are confident using tools and construct with a purpose.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are making generally good progress in physical development, children move confidently, they show good spatial awareness. Children have very good fine motor skills and use small equipment confidently. There is a well equipped garden for children to use in good weather. However there to be limited opportunity for children to use large equipment. Children are beginning to learn about staying healthy and their bodies.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children make very good progress in creative development, children are confident in exploring a wide range of media and materials, they have lots of opportunities to express themselves freely. Children are good at singing songs from memory, they dance and clap to music and engage in imaginative play well.	
<b>Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.</b>	



## **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:*

- Point for consideration;
- Improve the short term planning to include how the activity can be adapted and modified to meet children individual learning needs, the role of the adult, and opportunities for climbing.

*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.*