



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127216

DfES Number: 543343

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 13/10/2003  
Inspector Name Virginia Cooper

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Hadlow Garden Day Nursery  
Setting Address Court Lane  
Hadlow  
Kent  
TN11 0DU

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Kindergroups Ltd

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Kindergroups Ltd  
Address Tovil Business Centre  
Burial Ground Lane, Tovil  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME15 6RJ

## 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

Hadlow Garden Day Nursery is part of the Kinder Group of nurseries in Kent, it was first registered in 1999.

The nursery operates from one building located in the grounds of Hadlow college. The surrounding area is rural. There are four playrooms for differing ages, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen, an office and a large, enclosed outside area.

There are presently 47 children attending the nursery, none of these has special needs or English as an additional language. There are five funded three year olds and three funded four year olds attending the nursery.

The nursery operates from 07:30 until 18:00, Monday to Friday, 52 weeks a year.

Fourteen staff are currently employed to care for the children, of these 12 hold relevant early years qualifications and two are about to study for an NVQ III in childcare and education.

The nursery receive support from the Kinder Group head office and other Kinder nurseries.

### How good is the Day Care?

Hadlow Garden Day Nursery provides good quality care for the children.

The staff are well qualified and the nursery management encourage them to update their qualifications and training.

The children are cared for in groups determined by age in four separate rooms. The baby room staff are consistent. Each room has a supervisor. Staff work well as a team and are supported by the nursery manager. Staff are clear about their roles

and responsibilities. There are comprehensive policies and procedures and parents are provided with a summary of these.

There is a good variety of age appropriate toys and equipment. The staff are keen to put into practice new ideas for activities after attending courses. The children are confident and are keen to share their news and achievements with staff.

The nursery undertake detailed risk assessments and staff are safety conscious. Safety equipment is in place. The procedures to keep the rooms clean is very good. The staff are very careful when preparing and handling food. The children's toilet cubicles are enclosed but do not have doors attached. Now that older children attend the premises for the after school club a recommendation is made for them to consider how they will ensure that children's dignity and privacy is assured whilst using their toilet facilities. The nursery is decorated throughout with posters that promote equality of opportunity.

Staff plan interesting activities for the children that take account of their individual learning needs. Good behaviour is noticed and given appropriate praise and encouragement. Children's emotional needs are considered carefully.

The nursery's partnership with the parents is a particular strength, parents often visit and talk with children about a variety of interesting topics that they might not ordinarily be introduced to. Parents are provided with regular written information about the nursery and their child's progress and are encouraged to talk with staff each day.

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

Not applicable.

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

- The nursery staff have a very good relationship with parents. They talk with staff at the end of each session to exchange information in addition to the written records.
- Staff are safety conscious. Regular risk assessments are undertaken.
- Staff are very careful when preparing and handling food.
- Parents are provided with lots of information about the provision and their child's development and achievements. They are encouraged to add to these records.
- The organisation of the nursery is sound, the policies and procedures are working well in practice. Staff understand what is expected of them.
- The staff plan interesting activities that the children enjoy. The children are confident and eager to share their new found knowledge.
- The nursery is decorated throughout with posters that promote equality of opportunity.

**An aspect of outstanding practice:**

Parents regularly visit the nursery to share their knowledge and talents with the children. This has introduced children to a variety of new topics. Parents have stimulated interest in French, German, publishing, diving, horses and keep-fit.

**What needs to be improved?**

- the way in which children's privacy and dignity is assured whilst using their toilet facilities;
- the written parental permission from all parents regarding transporting children in company vehicles.

**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
4	consider how you can ensure that all children's dignity and privacy is assured whilst using the bathroom facilities.
12	obtain written permission from all parents regarding transporting children in company vehicles.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Hadlow Garden Day Nursery provides a stimulating learning environment for the children, enabling them to make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The staff plan interesting activities and allow time to extend the project if children become particularly fascinated. Staff are familiar with the Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage and seize opportunities to progress children's learning. The staff have recently changed the format of the children's development records, this has been welcomed by parents. The records relate closely to the stepping-stones and parents are encouraged to add information. The staff use the records to help them plan suitable activities to promote children's individual learning. Staff and children regularly hold interesting conversations, children ask lots of questions and staff satisfy them with answers. Language, literacy and social development are strong areas of the curriculum.

Some art activities are over prepared and adult led. The climbing equipment is still not very challenging.

The management of the nursery is strong, they are clear about what they expect of the staff and the staff in turn are clear about their roles and responsibilities.

The nursery manager is supportive and has a good relationship with the staff. She is calm and cheerful and regularly visits all the rooms to monitor and support staff. Policies and procedures have provided staff with an organisational plan that works well in practice.

The partnership with parents is particularly strong. Parents are invited to the nursery to share their knowledge and talents and to introduce children to new topics. This particularly helps children increase their knowledge and understanding of the world about them. Parents are kept well informed about the provision and their child's development. They are encouraged to speak to a member of staff at the end of each session where children's achievements and other information can be shared.

### What is being done well?

- The staff actively encourage parents to visit and share their knowledge and talents with the children. This stimulates interest in new topics and helps children increase their knowledge and understanding of the world about them.
- The children are confident and regularly engage staff in conversation. They ask staff lots of questions and are keen to share their news and achievements with them.

- The staff are confident using the Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage and seize opportunities to further children's development.
- The management encourage staff to update their qualifications and training.
- Parents are provided with lots of information about the provision and their child's development and achievements. They are encouraged to share information about their child's development at home and add this to their child's records.

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

- opportunities for children to be more creative within planned activities as well as free choice activities. Some art activities that support the main learning topic are over planned and very adult led.
- the provision of greater challenges for children in their physical development.

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

The children's development records and how these are used to plan activities that promote children's individual learning needs.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are interested in the activities and welcome responsibility. They can sit quietly and concentrate when they are read a story. They get along well with each other and the staff and are keen to express their ideas, news and achievements. Staff encourage children to show consideration, play co-operatively and share. They show kindness towards each other. The children's behaviour is good; they know what is expected of them and why. Most children confidently take themselves to the bathroom.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children initiate conversations with staff and each other. Most can explain their ideas and a few have a very wide vocabulary. Most children recognise their names and a good proportion can write part or all of it. They are familiar with the sounds made by different letters. The staff use the 'Jolly Phonics' scheme. The children have lots of opportunities to practice their writing skills in role-play situations. The book corner is often visited and the staff make good use of information books.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Most children count competently, they are provided with lots of opportunities to practice these skills. Staff take opportunities to introduce children to simple calculations and often use mathematical language asking questions about height, weight, size and shape. They sing number rhymes with the children and regularly help them solve practical problems. Children explore pattern and shape; most children can name different mathematical shapes.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Parents visit the nursery to introduce children to a diverse and interesting range of topics; the children enjoy this and talk about what they have learnt. They frequently explore new ideas through role-play; at present they are learning about travel and other countries. The children are familiar with information and communication technology, they particularly enjoy playing in the 'office'. They often use a camera. Most children can use a variety of tools competently and enjoy model making.

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently with control and understand how to move safely. The children have learnt through a variety of topics the importance of keeping healthy and how their bodies work. Their personal care is good. The children are practiced with play dough and imaginatively use this to make a variety of objects using different tools. The climbing equipment in the garden is not particularly challenging, children are experimenting sliding down in different ways to add interest.

### **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children are introduced to a variety of music and enjoy clapping to different rhythms. They regularly sing. They are imaginative in their small world play and role-play. Staff encourage children to explore with their senses. They look at onions and garlic, before and after they are cut and discuss what it is like. The children have opportunities to mix their own paint and explore colour, texture, shape and form, however the art activities supporting the main topic are sometimes overly prepared.

**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:*

- consider how children can further develop their creativity using their natural curiosity to experiment and explore when undertaking planned activities, as well as free choice activities.
- consider how children can experience more challenging climbing equipment.

*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.*