



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 110521

DfES Number: 515319

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	10/07/2003
Inspector Name	Wendy, Anne Lunn

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Hedge End Village Hall Pre-School
Setting Address	Village Hall, St Johns Road Hedge End Southampton Hampshire SO30 4AF

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of Hedge End Village Hall Pre School
------	--

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Hedge End Village Hall Pre School
Address	Village Hall St. Johns Road, Hedge End Southampton Hampshire SO30 4AF

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 Hedge End Village Hall Preschool opened in 1971. It is registered to care for no more than 26 children between the ages of two and five years, although it is the policy of the group to take children from two years nine months. It operates from the village hall. The preschool serves the local area.

There are currently 38 children on roll. This includes eight funded three year olds and thirteen funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group have systems in place to support children with special needs and those who have English as a second language.

The group opens for four mornings during school term times. Sessions are from 09:20-12:00 on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Five members of staff work with the children. The supervisor and deputy have qualifications in childcare and four members of staff have first aid training. There is a qualified special needs co-ordinator.[S.E.N.C.O.] and a staff training programme in place. The setting receives support from the Preschool Development Worker [P.D.W.] and a teacher with the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership [E.Y.D.C.P.]

How good is the Day Care?

Hedge End Village Hall Preschool provides satisfactory care for children.

The preschool offers a friendly environment for children. The staff make good use of space both indoors and outside enabling the children to gain confidence and enjoyment in physical activities. There is a stable staff team who know the children really well.

The staff plan a range of activities to support and encourage children's development and learning. They provide a good selection of toys and equipment at each session which children can access.

The staff have procedures in place to ensure the children's safety, and routines to

encourage good health and hygiene. Children do not always have free access to drinking water. There are systems in place to support children with special needs or who speak English as a second language.

Good behaviour is encouraged and the children respond well to this. There is a behaviour modification policy and most staff implement this consistently. The group has positive working relationships with parents and carers. All the required documentation is in place but sometimes lacks the necessary detail. Children's records are kept securely.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable

What is being done well?

- The preschool has a stable staff team who work together to meet the needs of the children. The group encourage staff to undertake training to further their knowledge and understanding of their work.
- The supervisor and staff team have systems in place to ensure that the group runs smoothly and provides a suitable environment for children.
- The staff interact positively with the children. They know them well and are interested in what the children say and do.
- The staff make good use of the shared outside play area and take the children out for physical play and to learn about their environment.
- The group has a supportive attitude to caring for children with special needs. They liaise with other professionals to plan individual programmes to ensure that the children are included and their development is extended.

What needs to be improved?

- the awareness of the behaviour management policy, to ensure that it is implemented consistently by all staff
- the free availability of water for children to access at all times
- documentation, to ensure that the regulator is included in the complaints policy, and to ensure the child protection policy includes a procedure for accusations made against staff
- procedures to ensure that all staff and officers of the committee have C.R.B clearance.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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
8	Ensure water is freely available to children at all times.
11	Ensure all staff are aware of behaviour management policy and implement it consistently.
1	Ensure all staff and officers of the committee are police checked.
14	Ensure that the child protection policy includes a procedure for accusations made against staff. Ensure that Ofsted's name is added to the complaints procedure.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The provision for nursery education at Hedge End Village Hall Preschool is generally good overall. Children are making very good progress in communication, language and literacy, and physical development, and generally good progress in the other areas of learning.

The overall quality of teaching is generally good. Staff have a sound knowledge of individual children and have established good relationships with them increasing confidence and self esteem. They have high expectations of behaviour and use daily routines to support children's learning, however some opportunities are missed to encourage independence. Staff assess and record children's progress and use this information to plan a variety of stimulating activities both in and out of doors. Staff are interested in what children do and use conversation to develop their language skills and support imaginative and physical play. Children with special needs are well supported. The preschool work with other agencies to provide individual education plans and promote children's progress. There are currently no children attending with English as a second language but systems are in place to provide support.

The leadership and management of the preschool is generally good. The supervisor and deputy take positive steps to keep staff informed and appraisals identify any training needs. Staff are encouraged to improve and update their skills.

The partnership with parents and carers is generally good. Staff are supportive to the needs of the parents and children and have established good informal relationships with them. Parents are welcomed into the group and encouraged to share information about their child. Parents receive some information about the stepping stones towards the early learning goals and this can limit the opportunity for the transfer of learning to home.

What is being done well?

- Staff create a stimulating environment where children learn through a range of practical activities. Staff provide many worthwhile learning opportunities throughout the session.
- Relationships within the preschool are good. Staff question children effectively encouraging them to contribute their own ideas. All children are valued and staff have a good knowledge of their individual needs.
- Children's physical development is very good. They show confidence in developing the ability to climb. They show increasing control and co-ordination in physical play.

What needs to be improved?

- information given to parents regarding the stepping stones and early learning goals and how this might be used to extend children's learning at home
- opportunities for children to further develop their independence during all activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The group have made generally good progress in addressing issues from the last inspection.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children part confidently from their parent/carer. They develop good relationships with staff and other children in the preschool. They learn to co-operate and work well together sharing resources in the water and sand play activities, and resolve conflicts while using the computer and during role play. Children do not always have the opportunity to fully develop their independence. Behaviour is good.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement:	Very Good
------------	-----------

Children's spoken language is developing well. They learn to negotiate well and to express their imagined experiences during a range of role play situations e.g. hospital, car driving. Children understand the structure of books. They listen attentively, enjoy stories and use story language creatively. Children learn to recognise and write letters in planned activities and use mark making in their role play situations.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children learn to use numbers in everyday situations and show that they understand size and shape through practical activities [water play, sand play]. They learn about mathematical language and problem solving through construction work and model making. Children have some opportunities to extend their learning during everyday activities and daily routines such as snack time.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement:	Generally Good
------------	----------------

Children enjoy using their senses to explore objects in practical activities e.g. water and sand play, and construction using a range of materials. They can generally use their design and making activities to refine ideas. Children gain an increasing understanding of where they live and the wider environment talking about the excitement of the fire engine coming. Children are confident in using information technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
------------	-----------

Children are able to use a wide range of large and small equipment which provides challenging opportunities for climbing, jumping, and balancing. They demonstrate a good sense of space and move confidently during physical activities. Children are provided with good opportunities to use their imagination in acting out stories and in singing sessions.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children enjoy participating in daily singing sessions and have built up a good repertoire of songs and rhymes. They are able to choose paper, paint and chalk from the materials provided for art and craft activities. Children are able to explore their creativity through most activities.	
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

- Provide parents with more information about the stepping stones and early learning goals, and how this can be used to extend children's learning at home.
- Evaluate the organisation of all activities to encourage children's independence.

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.