



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY230637

DfES Number:

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	27/06/2003
Inspector Name	Sally Elizabeth Lee

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	The Rugby Montessori Nursery School
Setting Address	Bilton Grange Dunchurch Nr Rugby Warwickshire CV22 6QU

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Jane Garland
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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

Rugby Montessori Nursery School was established in 1989 and operates from a purpose built nursery unit in the grounds of Bilton Grange School. The nursery is situated in the village of Dunchurch on the outskirts of Rugby. Accommodation comprises of a baby unit with 2 care rooms, a separate sleep room, a kitchen, laundry and changing area. In the pre-school unit there are 4 playrooms, a kitchen, toilets and staff facilities. There is large enclosed, outdoor play area and the nursery is set in woodlands and gardens.

The nursery follows the Montessori method of teaching and the main aim is to create a warm and caring environment where children are free to learn and grow. They use a wide range of special equipment. There are currently 34 funded children on roll. The setting provides support to children with special education needs and would provide support to children who speak English as an additional language.

There are 20 members of staff, 19 of whom have a range of Montessori and nursery nursing qualifications. There is, in addition, a secretary and a domestic assistant, a French teacher and a dance teacher who come in to the nursery every week. The nursery has support from the Early Years Partnership advisory teacher.

### How good is the Day Care?

Rugby Montessori Nursery provides good quality care for children. The organisation of the children into small rooms with key staff enables them to feel confident and settled. Staff interaction with children is very good. They are interested in what the children do and say, and the children are eager to play and learn. The planning and organisation of activities and resources is designed to encourage the children to become independent, and they are happy, active learners. Their progress is assessed weekly and appropriate, individual goals are set for them.

Staff give a high priority to ensuring the safety of children both inside and outside the setting. The registration system needs to include details of staff.

There are excellent hygiene procedures in place and these are implemented carefully. Staff provide very good role models for the children. They set clear and consistent boundaries and treat the children with respect. Behaviour is very good.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents receive detailed information about the nursery before their children start, and they value the daily interaction with staff, which keeps them informed about their children's progress and development. In addition there is a website, regular newsletters and parents evenings. Staff complete a daily diary for every child under 2 years.

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

Not applicable, as this is the first inspection.

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

- The programme of activities for all children is interesting and imaginative, giving them opportunities to explore and investigate. It supports their language, mathematical thinking, imagination and creativity. The activities are well planned and prepared and help children of all ages to make progress in all areas of development. Weekly assessment and attainment goals ensure that all children are challenged appropriately.
- The premises are light and welcoming, clean and well maintained. They are organised to meet the needs of the children. There are opportunities for outdoor play daily for all children either in the play area or the surrounding woods and gardens.
- Partnership with parents is good. Parents' booklets, newsletters, website, parents' evenings and daily interaction ensure parents are well informed about their children's progress and well being.
- Staff provide good role models and set clear and consistent boundaries. They treat the children with respect and consequently children treat each other with respect. Behaviour is very good.
- Support for children with special needs is good. Individual education plans and sensitive support from staff ensure that children reach their potential. Children's individual needs are met.

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

- the documentation relating to the registration system.

#### **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 there is a system for registering staff attendance on a daily basis.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Rugby Montessori Nursery School offers very good quality nursery education for three and four year old children. Strong relationships and effective teaching helps the children to make very good progress through the stepping stones towards the early learning goals in all areas. The children are happy, active learners. They are motivated and have good concentration skills. They are highly independent and work well together in groups, both with and without adult support.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a secure understanding of both the foundation stage and Montessori methods, and they provide a stimulating range of practical activities in all areas to help children learn. Children with special educational needs are very well supported and the planning and assessment systems ensure that the needs of all children are met. Staff have high expectations of the children and are good role models for them. Children co-operate and treat each other with respect. They are developing an understanding of right and wrong and behaviour is good.

Leadership and management is very good. There is a strong commitment to monitoring, developing and improving practice. Regular staff meetings and appraisals monitor training needs, and staff are positively encouraged to undertake further training. Staff motivation is high.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents are encouraged to share information about their children. Regular newsletters, the website and parents evenings keep them informed of the activities within the nursery. Staff talk to parents regularly about their children's progress and development.

### What is being done well?

- Children's natural curiosity is enhanced through the provision of a wide range of stimulating activities and resources. They are encouraged to use their senses freely, to explore and to investigate.
- Practical, everyday activities as well as Montessori resources are used well to help children begin to use their knowledge of numbers to solve problems.
- Staff give a high priority to nurturing children's personal, social and emotional development. Relationships are excellent and behaviour is very good. Children are developing independence and are eager to learn.
- There are high expectations of the children and they behave very well.
- Observations and assessments are used well to inform planning and to meet individual learning needs.
- Children's imagination is fostered through regular, exciting activities in art and design, dance and music.

<b>What needs to be improved?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opportunities for children to use role play.</li></ul>



<b>What has improved since the last inspection?</b>
The setting has made very good progress since the last inspection. Children's awareness and use of technology has improved by the provision of computers and tape players in all playrooms. Children are encouraged to use the technology.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in personal, social and emotional development is very good. They are well behaved, confident and eager to learn. Concentration is very good, working alone or in groups. Children show increasing respect and care for each other and are developing good relationships with staff and each other. They are developing an understanding of right and wrong. Personal independence is encouraged.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in communication, language and literacy is very good. Children are becoming clear, confident speakers and good listeners. They show an interest in books for both stories and information. They listen well and respond to stories, taking an active part in large and small group story telling. Children are learning to link sounds and letters and are making good progress in writing and reading their own names.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in mathematical development is very good. Learning is based on the use of Montessori equipment and incidental opportunities as they arise during daily activities. Children are able to count and recognise numbers up to 10. They use mathematical language well and are able to complete simple calculations. Children are developing a good understanding of shape, space, size and measure. They can recreate simple patterns in 2 and 3 dimensions.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress in knowledge and understanding of the world. They explore the natural world on walks within the grounds and have many opportunities to observe changes in plants and living things. Children are naturally curious and are keen to investigate and explore the world around them. They are beginning to develop an understanding of the sense of time, and past and present events. They are learning about their own cultures and beliefs and those of others.

## **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Progress in physical development is very good. Children are developing skills in control and co-ordination as they make use of the Montessori equipment. They move confidently and imaginatively in circle games and dance, and enjoy outdoor play. Children are developing skills in catching and throwing, climbing and manoeuvring wheeled toys. They are beginning to learn about the importance of keeping healthy and to recognise the changes that happen to their bodies when they are active.

## **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children make very good progress in creative development. Staff achieve a balance between encouraging children to create from observation and allowing them the freedom to express from their imagination. Children are encouraged and supported to select a wide range of creative materials and tools. Children use musical instruments regularly and listen to a wide range of music. They have opportunities to dance and to re-create stories through role play.

**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:*

- Point for consideration.
- develop regular opportunities for children to use role play in daily activities.

*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.*