



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 135053

DfES Number: 500105

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	01/03/2005
Inspector Name	Denys Rasmussen

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Lisson Green Community Childcare Centre
Setting Address	4 Lilestone Street London NW8 8SU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Westminster Children's Society 2228978 299686
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Westminster Children's Society
Address	121 Marsham Street London SW1P 4LX

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

Lisson Green Nursery was established in 1984 as a community nursery centre and was registered under the Children Act 1989 in 1997, it is one of 15 nurseries run by Westminster Children's Society. It is accommodated on the first floor of premises shared with an adult learning centre in the Lisson Green Estate. A maximum of 39 children may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08:15 to 17:45 for 51 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor area.

There are currently 45 children aged from 14 months to under 5 years on roll. Of these 15 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from the local community. The nursery currently supports children with special educational needs and several children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs 12 nursery staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Lisson Green Community Childcare Centre provides high quality nursery education which enables children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a sound understanding of the foundation stage, they manage the children in a calm and attentive manner. The nursery is organised to create an interesting learning environment, encouraging children's independence. Assessments are used well to build steadily on children's progress and staff are skilled at adapting the activity to the child's level of understanding. Staff question children to make them think. Children with special educational needs are encouraged to participate in the full range of nursery activities.

Very good resources and practical activities are offered with clear aims and purpose. Good topic based planning is linked to all areas of learning. Children's visual and audio development is enhanced by the use of the on site sensory studio. Staff are positive role models and interact well with children to support learning. Children's emotional development and independence is given high priority encouraging children's confidence and self esteem.

Leadership and management is very good. The staff team work well together clear in their roles and responsibilities. There is a strong commitment to the professional development of the staff . They are aware of their strengths and weaknesses and act to make improvements. The strong leadership ensures there are good support systems in place.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Good information is given to parents about the nursery and the areas of learning however some parents are unsure as to who their child's key worker is. Staff arrange regular meetings with parents to discuss their child's progress. Parental feedback is used to monitor and improve the service and education offered. Parents are encouraged to borrow books from the nursery to share with their child.

What is being done well?

- Staff use excellent strategies to promote good behaviour . Their calm, polite and attentive manner sets a very good example for children. Children are happy and work well together, they are confident and are proud of their achievements. Staff interact with children to support and enhance their play.
- The children have access to a good range of quality resources which they are encouraged to access independently. The nursery make good use of the sensory studio to enhance children's visual and audio development.
- The staff plan worthwhile practical activities covering all areas of learning,

which are organised with a clear purpose. Staff's effective questioning encourage children to think.

- The partnership with parents is well fostered, a high value is placed on parents opinion and suggestions for improving the service through the use of questionnaires. Parents have the use of a parent room to meet other parents or be close to their child. Parents are kept well informed of their child's progress. There is a good range of books which they can borrow to share with their child at home.
- The nursery is well managed, and good leadership ensures there are effective support systems in place. The emphasis on staff development ensures the whole team are aware of current good practise.

What needs to be improved?

- the information given to parents about their child's key worker.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Very good progress has been made since the last inspection in relation to the key issues raised. These required the nursery to arrange more activities to help more able children recognise familiar words and the sounds of words and to help them become aware of changes in their body after exercise. Staff provide a rich environment for children's literacy skills through word games, puzzles and creating a word wall. They use labels well and introduce the sounds of letters and words to children with the help of tapes, musical instruments and rhymes. Staff introduce words to the children to describe body changes after they have been active. They encourage children to listen to their heartbeat with a working stethoscope to be aware of the changes. The staff helped the children make a nursery book called 'what happens when I run'.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have good relationships with each other and are happy to approach adults for support. They have particular friends. Children respond well to the familiar routines and behave well. They are busy and motivated and staff sustain children's interest by positive interaction to enhance their play. They have good self help skills, they use the toilet, wash their hands, wipe their nose and use the snack bar with self discipline. The resources are organised to encourage children's independence.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children listen well and take great pleasure in books, they share favourite stories and anticipate key events. The staff introduce new vocabulary and explore the sound of words and letters through rhythm and games. Children use writing for a variety of purposes such as their signature on their homemade ID cards and marking their work. Staff extend activities for more able children such as using a reading scheme and their good use of props encourage language development.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children learn to recognise and use number throughout the routine of the day, by effective labelling and activities provided. Good practical activities are offered to help children experiment, problem solve and understand measure and pattern such as sand, water, wall mosaics and measuring plant growth. Children learn about positional and size language through good use of stories and props and are beginning to understand simple adding and subtracting through number songs and building.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

There are good topic based activities to help the children learn about plant growth, their bodies and the environment. Resources are organised so that children can confidently design and make things. Children use simple technology such as searching for metal with a metal detector, using the water dispenser and having access to a computer. Children learn about their community by visiting local resources e.g. recycle bank and by visitors to the group such as the librarian.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children observe the effects of activity on the body such as listening to their heart with a stethoscope and show an awareness of healthy practises e.g. brushing their teeth. Activities introduce children to road safety. Children's manipulative skills are encouraged through the use of malleable materials, small tools e.g. scissors, cutlery and wind up toys and activities such as threading and dressing themselves. Children are encouraged to use large motor skills through effective group games.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children can differentiate colours and explore what happens when they mix colours. Children have independent access to a variety of creative media which they confidently use expressing themselves imaginatively. They have access to a sensory studio which provides additional opportunities for their audio and visual learning. Children learn to appreciate different types of music and associate different rhythm's with different activities e.g. dancing, tidying up and resting.

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 weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- implement a system that ensures children's named key workers are known to all parents.

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.