



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY255183

DfES Number: 521720

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	16/12/2004
Inspector Name	Beth Kingsland

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Fledgelings Day Nursery
Setting Address	The Old Chapel Ramsgate Kent CT11 0BS

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Joanne Brassington
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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

The Fledglings Nursery School operates from a converted chapel. The nursery has access to five classrooms, an office, toilets, a kitchen, laundry room, a hall and an outside area. The nursery serves the local area and surrounding towns.

The nursery is registered to provide 67 places for children from birth to 8 years. There are currently 110 families on roll. This includes 38 funded 3 and 4-year-olds. Children attend a variety of sessions each week. The provision is open from 08.00 to 18.00. The nursery does not offer a cooked midday meal. The nursery has experience caring for children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

There are 30 members of staff working with the children; of these, 25 staff have early years qualifications. The nursery receives support from the Pre-School Learning Alliance and advisory teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Fledglings Day Nursery provision is acceptable and of good quality overall. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals and their progress within mathematical development is very good. The nursery provides children with a warm and friendly environment.

The overall quality of teaching is generally good. Staff generally work positively with children, encouraging them to be confident, however, staff do not always promote and encourage freedom of choice. This is particularly evident within the programmes of creative development, where planned activities are staff led, and involve children completing pre-created pieces of work. The programme for physical development is not given significant priority.

Staff provide a range of activities throughout the session, and generally support children well. Children communicate well with each other and have developed good relationships. This is highlighted during children's role-play, where staff support children well. Children are generally accommodated well, however at times; due to space restrictions children are not appropriately grouped. The organisation of the reading area does not allow children to select books in a comfortable and inviting environment.

The effectiveness of assessment and curriculum planning is generally good. Staff have begun to make detailed assessments of children's progress, however, this information is not effectively used to inform the planning of activities to highlight individual children's learning.

The overall quality of leadership and management is generally good. Staff work effectively as a team. Staff meet regularly to discuss nursery practice, and staff are developing procedures to evaluate and review the effectiveness of the settings practice.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Staff greet parents warmly and provide them with formal opportunities to learn about children's progress.

What is being done well?

- Staff generally support children well. Children are confident and independent; they work well together and have formed good relationships.
- Children communicate well together. They enjoy role-play and are supported well by staff.
- Staff provide a wide range of practical mathematical activities throughout the session. Children's numeracy skills are supported and extended.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Staff have developed a clear partnership with parents and carers. Parents receive daily opportunities to learn about their children's progress.● Children can access a wide range of materials for construction. Children confidently work together to design and build imaginative models. |
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What needs to be improved?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● the management and organisation of the day● the programme for physical development● opportunities for children to express their ideas freely and independently, especially within the programme of creative development● the reading area● the use of assessment to inform the planning of activities.

What has improved since the last inspection?
Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children work positively and enthusiastically to complete a range of activities. They have developed good relationships together and their behaviour is generally good. Children confidently select resources that staff set out for them; however, children receive limited opportunities to select for themselves. Personal independence is generally well supported throughout the day. Children are introduced to positive images of other cultures and traditions through planned activities.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children speak confidently together in groups, communicating their ideas during free-play. Staff generally make effective use of discussion activities to develop and extend children's language skills. Good opportunities are provided for children to write freely and imaginatively as part of free-play activities. Children enjoy large group reading sessions, however the environment does not encourage and promote opportunities for children to select books independently.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children receive good opportunities to count and recognise patterns and shapes as part of the daily programme of activities. A good range of mathematical equipment is available within the nursery and staff make effective use of these to encourage children to solve simple problems as part of practical and free-play activities.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children receive appropriate opportunities to explore the local and wider world and to discuss their home and family life. Staff provide a good range of staff planned investigation activities that allow children to explore the properties of different materials. Appropriate use is made of staff led activities to allow children to look closely at the differences, patterns and change of materials. Children confidently use a wide range of materials for construction.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Significant Weaknesses

Children receive opportunities to move freely, however space restrictions and the management of the nursery results in children not having regular freedom of movement. Children only access outside play in fine weather. Opportunities for children to develop their small manipulative skills take place as part of the daily session. However, the lack of assessment of children's progress and the ineffective planning of the programme inhibits children's progress.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Significant Weaknesses
	<p>The children receive opportunities to respond to a variety of experiences that allow them to access a range of materials. Staff provide some opportunities to allow children to use their imaginations, however many of the provided activities are staff led, with staff setting the outcomes. Staff fail to make effective use of assessment to inform the planning of future activities, as a result, some activities lack challenge.</p>
<p>Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.</p>	

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

- review the effectiveness of the daily routine to ensure planned daily activities and routines to help children make effective progress towards the early learning goals, especially within the programmes for physical and creative development,
- ensure children are able to use, enjoy and share books in a warm and comfortable environment,
- make effective use of assessment in order to; i) identify individual children's next steps in learning; ii) use any information gained from assessment to inform the planning of 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.