

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 134507

DfES Number: 512494

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 23/02/2004
Inspector Name Maggie Ferris

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Blewbury Pre-School

Setting Address Church Road

Blewbury Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 9PY

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Management Committee Blewbury Pre-School

Address 11 Bridus Mead

Blewbury Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 9PJ

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

Blewbury Pre-school opened in 1971. It operates from the old village school in Blewbury, and serves the local and wider area.

There are currently 27 children from 3 to 5 years on roll. This includes 15 funded 3 year olds and 12 funded 4 year olds. The setting is able to support children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The pre-school is open from 9am - 11.45am, Monday - Friday and from 13.00 -15.00 Thursdays, Term time only.

Five members of staff work with the children. Two of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. One member of staff is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from the local Early Years development and childcare partnership, They have established links with the local primary school and have achieved a Quality Assurance award from Oxfordshire County Council.

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 Blewbury Pre-school is of high quality which helps children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a clear knowledge and understanding of the Foundation Stage and provide a good range of interesting and appropriate practical activities to support children's learning. They make good use of the accommodation and resources available to them. The use of planning and assessment ensures that children make very good progress towards the early learning goals. Staff are committed to ongoing training and their enthusiastic approach to the activities encourages the children to participate.

Leadership and management is very good. The staff work well together as a team and are deployed effectively throughout each session to maintain a calm and stimulating environment. Staff are encouraged to attend training to further develop their knowledge of early years and the foundation stage. Staff have clear defined roles and responsibilities within the setting which allows staff members to have responsibility for specific areas, for example Special Educational Needs.

Partnership with parents is very good. Parents receive a prospectus informing them about the setting and the education their child will receive, this information contains details of the policies and procedures in place and how parents can access them. There is also a notice board for parents with a variety of information about the nursery and other relevant items. Information regarding the children is shared verbally at the beginning and end of each session. Parents are invited to contribute to their children's education by helping within the group on a voluntary basis or serving on the management committee.

What is being done well?

- Children are confident, motivated and eager to participate in all of the activities. They relate well to each other and adults, are well behaved and able to share the resources and take turns in the activities offered.
- Children's spoken language and writing skills are developing well as a result
 of the good range of planned activities and adult interaction. Most children
 are able to recognise their names and are beginning to understand that print
 carries meaning.
- Staff provide a good range of activities to promote children's knowledge in number, addition and subtraction, planning ensures that children learn through a range of activities that are fun. Children are able to count confidently up to 10 and many are able to count up to 20 and beyond.
- Children are given opportunities to learn from first hand experiences and enable them to use their senses within the activities offered.

- Staff's knowledge of the foundation stage is very good, they use consolidation techniques through repetition, questioning and re-visiting topics and activities to enhance children's learning.
- Staff work well together as a team.

What needs to be improved?

- Children's access to musical instruments.
- Opportunities for children to consolidate their calculation skills through everyday practical activities.
- Regular formal information for parents regarding their child's progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

All key issues have been addressed. The children now have access to a computer and programmable toys. Staff continue to attend training to develop their skills.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in personal, social and emotional development is very good. Children are confident, motivated, interested and keen to participate in the activities and resources offered. They are able to work independently and in co-operation with others. They are well behaved and have a good understanding of right and wrong. They show care and consideration to each other within their play. Children relate well to each other and adults.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children's development in communication, language and literacy is very good. Staff's interaction within the activities ensures that their spoken language and writing skills are developing well. Children are able to recognise their names on name cards and are beginning to recognise that print carries meaning. They listen to and respond to stories with enjoyment, they are confident and encouraged by staff to put forward their ideas and observations during group activities.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in mathematical development is very good. Mathematics is effectively planned however opportunities to re-enforce calculation are missed. The children confidently count to 10 and beyond and recognise numerals up to 10. Staff provide a wide range of activities to reinforce number, subtraction, addition, shape and size.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in knowledge and understanding of the world is very good. Children talk confidently about personal events within their lives. Themes and activities ensure that children are developing their knowledge about other cultures and traditions. Children are confident in their design and making skills and planning ensures that children access a range of construction materials. The children are confident in their use of the computer and other technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in physical development is very good. Children use a variety of equipment to encourage physical development and self confidence. They use a range of tools confidently. Children are confident and capable when undertaking routine activities and show a good awareness of personal hygiene. Children have good co-ordination skills and understanding of space, they move with confidence and ease around the nursery building and whilst enjoying outdoor play.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's progress in creative development is very good. Children express themselves freely through role play and are given opportunities to use their imagination in everyday activities. They respond with enthusiasm to new activities and are confident in expressing their thoughts and feelings. Children experience a good selection of resources and activities to explore a range of media for example paint, collage, sand, water, and play dough but they have limited access to musical instruments.

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 is no significant weakness to report but consideration should be given to improve the following:
- provide regular access to a range of musical instruments;
- re-inforce children's skills in calculation through everyday 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.