



Office for Standards  
in Education

## NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 144310

DfES Number: 584127

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/10/2002  
Inspector Name Christine Coram

### SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name ST CATHERINES KINDERGARTEN  
Setting Address ST CATHERINES RC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
WIMBORNE  
DORSET

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name  
Address

## **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.

<b>Information about the setting</b>
St Catherine's Kindergarten is a committee run group offering pre-school sessions for up to 24 children. The premises consist of a classroom unit in the grounds of St Catherine's RC Primary School with toilets and kitchen within the unit. The school play ground is available for outside play. There are close links with the school (which the majority of children will attend). Children travel from the Roman Catholic parishes of Wimborne, West Moors, Blandford and Ringwood and the local community of Colehill. Sessions are currently Monday - Friday, 9am - 12 noon. Of the children attending this term, a number are funded 3 and 4 year olds and none have special educational needs. Teacher support is provided by the EYDCP support teacher and the reception teacher within the school.

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

### **How effective is the nursery education?**

Children's progress towards the early learning goals is generally good. Children are happy and involved in the activities provided, which support and encourage their all round development. Teaching is generally good, and staff interact with children with interest and enthusiasm. However, staff sometimes miss opportunities to extend children's knowledge and understanding particularly in mathematical development. Leadership and management is good. The committee are supportive, and appear to support the staff, who work well as a team. Partnership with parents is good. There is a successful parent rota, and policies and procedures are made available to parents on a daily basis. Although there is little information for parents about the early learning goals and their children's ongoing progress. There is an opportunity for parents to make suggestions regarding the setting.

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

Children are confident, happy and interested in the activities provided. Children have good access to a range of creative and imaginative activities which support and encourage their progress towards the early learning goals. The setting has a good relationship with parents and carers. There are a variety of good quality resources available for children to use.

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

Information to parents and carers about the early learning goals and children's developmental records. Staff's knowledge and understanding of challenging children, and extending their learning, through questioning and vocabulary particularly in mathematical development. Children's access to resources which positively reflect a range of cultures and ability.

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

Children's access to tools and natural materials to enable them to develop creatively, and use their imagination. Developmental records, which now relate directly to the Early Learning Goals.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

<b>PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children's progress towards personal, social and emotional development is generally good. Children are developing confidence, and are interested and curious, in activities provided, especially the shop. children did not have full opportunities to develop independence. Children are able to sit quietly, when necessary, and show consideration and concern towards each other. Children's behaviour is generally good.	

<b>COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children's progress towards the early learning goal of communication is generally good. There are many opportunities for spontaneous writing, and mark making, and linking the written word to everyday activities. Children enjoy stories, and interact well with adults and peers.	

<b>MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goal of mathematics. They are beginning to explore shape and size, and use counting in familiar, everyday activities. Staff use mathematical and positional language to help extend children's understanding, but miss opportunities to introduce comparisons, addition and subtraction into play activities.	

<b>KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children's progress towards the early learning goals in knowledge and understanding of the world is generally good. Children have the opportunity to talk about and explore their own environment. Staff provide a range of activities to allow children to investigate natural resources and materials. However, there are insufficient positive images of diversity in culture and ability, through books, posters and toys.	

<b>PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children are making good progress towards the early learning goals in their physical development. The group use the school's outdoor play facilities. Children are learning to use bats and balls, balance beams, and tunnels. Climbing activities are limited, depending on the weather. Children move safely and with confidence. They are learning about the importance of good hygiene practices, and the importance of exercise.	

<b>CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Judgement:	Generally Good

Children are making generally good progress towards creative development. They enjoy music and singing, and are learning about musical instruments, and percussion. Children have free access to a range of tools and natural materials to enable them to exercise their creativity and imagination. Staff provide a good range of activities which promote imaginative play.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately:	Y
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**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**

Improve the way information is given to parents and carers about the early learning goals and their children's individual developmental records. . Enable staff to undertake training opportunities to assist their knowledge and understanding of how to challenge children, and extend their learning, through questioning and vocabulary. Provide opportunities for children to learn about calculation, comparison, addition and subtraction through play activities. Increase children's access to resources which positively reflect a range of cultures and ability.