



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 116805

DfES Number: 582411

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/12/2003
Inspector Name Margaret Moffat

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Pine Rivers Kindergarten & Day Nursery
Setting Address 5 Western Elms Avenue
Reading
Berkshire
RG30 2AL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Violet Pennison

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

Pine Rivers Kindergarten and Day Nursery opened in 1971. It is a privately owned nursery and operates from a converted Victorian house in West Reading. The nursery serves the local community.

There are currently 51 children on role from 3 months to 7 years old. This includes two funded 3 year olds and ten funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 07:30 until 18:00.

Eleven staff work with the children. Seven of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 and 3. Three staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. Most staff have an up to date first aid certificate. The nursery also employs an administrator, a cook, a kitchen assistant and a cleaner. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Pine Rivers Kindergarten and Day Nursery offers satisfactory quality care for the children. The nursery is clean and well maintained. Staff organise space effectively and display children's art work providing a warm and welcoming environment. High ratios of qualified staff ensure children have good support and are well cared for. Most relevant documentation and consents are in place although some lack the necessary detail.

Staff have a satisfactory awareness of safety issues and there are effective systems in place to ensure the premises are secure. However risk assessments are not regularly reviewed. Staff encourage the children to follow appropriate hygiene procedures and to become independent in these practices. Staff understand the

need to protect children and the appropriate procedures to follow if concerned about a child. However there is no trained staff member with responsibility for child protection issues.

Staff form good relationships with the children. They spend time talking and playing with them helping them to learn. Consistent daily routines ensure children are happy, secure and gain independence. There is a good range of toys and activities on offer to support children in all areas of learning. Staff act as good role models for the children and have a positive approach towards behaviour management. Children behave well and respond positively to staff requests.

There are effective procedures in place to share information with parents, which covers all aspects of care. Staff form good relationships with the parents and carers and they are available to discuss any concerns. Parents are happy with the care provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A

What is being done well?

- Staff form good relationships with the children and interact well. They provide a warm and welcoming environment where children are happy and secure.
- There is a good range of toys and resources available to support children in all areas of learning.
- Staff have a positive approach towards behaviour management. Children are polite and well behaved. They respond well to praise and encouragement offered by staff.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation, to confirm staff are vetted, lost child procedure is in place, arrival and departure times of children are recorded accurately and written consent is obtained to seek emergency medical treatment or advice for children;
- induction process to ensure all staff are aware of child protection and health and safety policies and procedures;
- procedure for reviewing risk assessment
- staff training, to ensure there is a trained member of staff responsible for child protection issues

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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	improve implementation of induction process to ensure all staff are aware of health and safety and child protection policies and procedures.
6	ensure risk assessment is regularly reviewed
13	ensure that there is a trained member of staff who has responsibility for child protection issues
14	ensure that all records relating to day care activities are readily accessible on the premises, accurate and available for inspection at all times

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Pine Rivers Kindergarten and Day Nursery offers good quality provision which helps children make generally good progress towards the early learning goals. The provision for personal, social and emotional development, communication language and literacy development and creative development is very good.

Teaching is generally good. Staff use effective explanation and questioning to encourage children's thinking. Staff know the children well and have an understanding of the foundation stage, however this is not used with the stepping stones to inform children's future progress. Opportunities are missed for children to use mathematical language and to discover how and why things work. There are currently children attending with special educational needs and for whom English is an additional language and there are effective systems in place to provide good support.

Leadership and management is generally good. There is a good staff team in place who provide a stimulating environment where children learn through a variety of activities. They are committed to ongoing training and the improvement and quality of care and education in the nursery.

Partnership with parents is generally good. Staff form good relationships with parents and carers. Parents receive information about the activities and routines of the nursery via newsletters, notice board, policies and procedures and prospectus. There are effective systems in place to keep parents informed about their children's progress.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. The children develop very good relationships with staff and each other. They are well behaved and share toys and resources readily, taking turns. They develop very good independence skills.
- Staff form good relationships with the children, parents and carers.
- Children respond enthusiastically during activities and express their imagination in a variety of role play situations.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunity for children to use language to describe position, size and quantity;
- the opportunity for children to discover how and why things work;

- staff knowledge of the stepping stones.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Although the children are making progress towards the Early Learning Goals through the activities on offer, staff are not aware of the stepping stones.

The nursery has made limited improvements in addressing the issues from the previous inspection and some remain outstanding.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children develop very good relationships working well together and independently. They share resources and behave well responding positively to the praise and encouragement offered by staff. They are developing very good independence skills.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children speak confidently and communicate well. Children are beginning to understand that print carries meaning. They recognise letters and link these to sounds. They have opportunities to practise emergent writing and to recognise and write their own names.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Most children are able to count confidently to ten and can recognise numerals between one and nine. Children explore shapes through practical activities, however opportunities are missed to use language to describe position, size and quantity. Children have numerous opportunities to compare numbers and make simple calculations.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children talk with confidence about events in their personal lives and are becoming aware of other cultures and traditions. Children develop their senses and find out about a variety of living things through a range of activities which provide first hand experiences. There are few activities to discover how and why things happen or work.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children develop good co-ordination and move with control around the room and in movement activities. Many children have good pencil control and use a range of tools confidently.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children respond enthusiastically during activities and are confident in communicating their ideas. Children have opportunities to express their imagination in a variety of role play situations and experience what they see, hear, smell, taste, touch and feel through activities such as cooking, music and movement and visiting animals.

Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately.

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

- increase the opportunities for children to use language to describe position, size and quantity and to discover how and why things work;
- improve staff knowledge and understanding of the curriculum guidance of foundation stage to progress children's learning

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.