



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 254609

DfES Number: 518566

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 14/01/2004  
Inspector Name Susan Riley

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Educare Day Nursery  
Setting Address 8 Sherwood Rise  
Nottingham  
Nottinghamshire  
NG7 6JF

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name EduCare Day Nurseries and Nursery Schools Limited 3671499

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name EduCare Day Nurseries and Nursery Schools Limited  
Address 16 Pelham Road  
Nottingham  
NG5 1AP

## 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

Educare Day Nursery is a privately run nursery, which opened in 1996. It operates from a converted Victorian house in the Sherwood area of Nottingham. Children are cared for in three units, Baby Bees, Toddler Tigers and Pre-school Pandas. The children are flexibly grouped depending on their age and ability. There is access to a large enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery serves the local and wider communities.

There are currently 68 children on roll. This includes 13 funded three-year-olds and 6 funded four-year-olds. Children attend a variety of sessions each week. The setting is not currently supporting children with special educational needs, but they do have systems in place to do so. They do support children with English as an additional language.

The nursery opens Monday to Friday, 52 weeks of the year apart from bank holidays. Sessions are 07:30 until 18:30. This facility offers after school care for children under eight years, and they can collect from the two local primary schools.

Twenty staff work with the children. Twelve staff have early years qualifications to level two or three. Eight staff are currently working towards a recognised early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the Nottingham City Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

### How good is the Day Care?

Educare Day Nursery provides good quality care for children.

The management have effective procedures in place for appointing and checking staff and a good staff induction programme is in place. The premises are clean and well-maintained and provide a very child-friendly environment. The setting is made very welcoming by the staff and the good displays of children's artwork. Space and resources are very well organised to meet children's individual needs. A

comprehensive set of policies and procedures are in place to ensure the smooth running of the nursery and good care for children.

Staff observe and maintain good supervision of children. They actively promote good health and hygiene practices for children. Healthy meals and snacks are provided for all children.

Staff are aware of and meet the children's individual dietary needs. Children have access to drinking water at all times.

Staff provide a stimulating range and balance of activities and experiences for children throughout the nursery. All children are valued, included and their individual needs met at all times. Children's self-esteem is encouraged through the staff offering positive praise. Children are very well behaved.

There is a good relationship in place with parents, there is lots of good information readily available and they are kept well informed. The staff work in partnership with parents at all times and ensure that children are cared for according to their wishes at all times.

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

Not applicable

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

- Children have access to a good range and balance of activities and experiences, to enhance their all-round development. They are given opportunities to make their own decisions in play and companions. They have close friends within the nursery and all children appear happy, confident and settled.
- Staff organise space and the wide range of resources very well throughout the whole of the nursery. This ensures that every bit of space is used to its full potential and that the children are able to self-select their own additional resources to extend or change their play.
- The staff are very knowledgeable about each child within their care, they interact well with the children, they play and have fun, talk and listen to them.
- Children's behaviour within the nursery is very good; the staff manage children's behaviour in a positive manner. Reward systems are in place and all achievements are recognised and valued.

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

- the assessment of risk regarding the movement of the low chairs at meal times

**Outcome of the inspection**

Good

**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
6	Conduct a risk assessment of the movement of the low chairs for meal times from the toddler area to the baby area.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Educare Day Nursery provides a good and well-organised programme of education for all children. This helps them to make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is very good. The owners and staff have a clear understanding of the early learning goals, and how children learn through play. Staff are aware of the individual children and of their abilities. They use the wide range of resources and equipment to extend children's learning and maintain their interest. A good balance of child and adult-led activities are planned to cover the six areas of learning. Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour and have effective reward systems in place.

Leadership and management of the nursery is very good. A sound leadership is in place and the staff team work very well together. Effective strategies are in place to monitor and enhance the nursery. The whole nursery is committed to the improvement of the care and education for all children. The commitment of staff to regularly attend training is very good.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Parents are provided with good written information about the Foundation Stage, the setting and its daily routine, policies, procedures and activities, with good information around the setting for all to see. Parents feel they are well informed about their child's achievements and progress. Parents and staff work together to ensure a good home link is in place to aid children's learning. Staff provide a welcoming atmosphere for parents and good relationships are in place.

### What is being done well?

- Children's reading skills are very good. Most children are able to recognise their own name and able children can read familiar words, labels and signs around the setting. Many children are progressing on to an established reading scheme.
- Children's design and making skills are very good. They use, with confidence and purpose, the wide range of materials and equipment.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is excellent and a great strength of the setting. Children are confident within the group and are motivated to learn.
- Children display good concentration and complete tasks. This is due to the consistent interest and good quality interaction by the staff.
- Staff are good role models for the children and provide a harmonious learning

environment. Children's behaviour is very good.

- Staff have a clear understanding of the early learning goals and consequently plan a wide range of activities, which engage and maintain children's interest, using space and resources effectively.

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

- more opportunities for children to explore how sounds can be changed

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

The progress made by the nursery since the last inspection in 1999 has been good. The setting was asked to devise an appropriate method for recording the children's participation in the various experiences during the afternoon sessions and ensure that all children have an opportunity to access the focussed learning activities at some time. A new timetable is in place together with a monitoring system to record each child's participation in these and all other activities. The setting was asked to provide more opportunities for the 4-year-olds to record their observation and experiences in a variety of ways. The nursery has created a writing area, which is readily available for all children; they also have access to notebook and pens during the outdoor activities to record what they find. They were also asked to provide more opportunities for the 4-year-olds to practise and gain confidence in their climbing skills. The staff sought advice from the Health and Safety Executive and now provide a range of suitable activities for children to develop their skills.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are happy and confident in the setting, they speak in familiar groups, and they approach adults for their needs to be met. They settle and choose activities and work purposefully, demonstrating good levels of concentration and the ability to sit and complete chosen tasks. Children work independently or as part of a small group, taking turns and sharing. Children display good personal independence with toileting, hand washing, aprons, coats, shoes, dressing and snack times.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident with language. They freely engage in conversations with peers and adults. They make very good use of discussion times and demonstrate good awareness of the listener. Children are learning Spanish as an additional language. Children frequently attempt mark making and writing. They are starting to use mark making for recording and as a means of communicating. Children's reading skills are developing well, they know how books work and handle them with care.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children's number skills are developing well. They can recognise numbers, count spontaneously, or by using objects, up to 20 and beyond. They are confident to use numbers and mathematical language within their play. Children are learning well about shape and size in the practical activities provided. They enjoy number rhymes and songs. Children's calculating skills are developing well; the children demonstrate a good understanding of 'more' or 'less'.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children show a natural curiosity and examine objects and living things through first hand experiences. Children's design and making skills are developing well; they select resources, materials and tools using them with a purpose in mind. They are gaining a good awareness of culture and the beliefs of others. Children talk about the past and present confidently, showing a good sense of time and place. Children use the computer skilfully and competently.

**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children use a wide range of large and small equipment securely and with increasing control and co-ordination. They move confidently and in safety around the setting. Children have a good awareness of personal space of themselves and others. They demonstrate good understanding of good practices with regard to eating and personal hygiene. Children competently use a range of tools, which they demonstrate through their play, creative and design work.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children explore colour, texture, shape, form and space in two and three dimensions through the practical activities. They play very imaginatively in a variety of role-play situations. Children competently sing songs and rhymes from memory. They express and communicate their ideas and thoughts by using the wide range of materials and equipment. Children demonstrate interest and respond in a variety of ways to what they see, hear, taste, touch and feel.

**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:
- provide more opportunities for children to recognise and explore for themselves how sounds can be changed.

*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.*