



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY236574

DfES Number: 522442

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 21/10/2004
Inspector Name Lynne Roberts

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care, Full Day Care
Setting Name Lytham Hall Park Nursery School Limited
Setting Address Hall Park CP School
South Park
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 4QU

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Lytham Hall Park Nursery School Limited 3132004 1051924

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Lytham Hall Park Nursery School Limited
Address South Park
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 4QU

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

Lytham Hall Park Nursery and After School Club opened in 1996. They operate from a Primary School in Lytham. Outdoor play areas, which include a fully enclosed garden, are available. The groups serve the school.

There are 118 children on roll. There is a system in place to provide support for children with special educational needs or who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery opens during school term time for children aged three to five years, from Monday to Friday, between the hours of 09:00 and 15:30. Children attend for morning or afternoon sessions. Children may attend full days if they bring a packed lunch. There are 29 children on the nursery roll. This includes 28 funded 3 year olds. Five staff are employed to work with the children, of which three hold a recognised child care qualification. Two of the staff are employed to supervise children during the lunch hour.

An Out of School Club opens during school term time for children aged four to eight years, from Monday to Friday, between the hours of 15:30 and 17:30. There are 89 children on roll, of which 35 are aged under 8 years. Ten staff are employed to work with the children, of which one is appropriately qualified. Children over the age of eight years are also offered care.

How good is the Day Care?

Lytham Hall Park provides good care for children.

The premises are clean, bright and made visually very welcoming through attractive displays of children's work. Space is organised and used very well to provide a broad range of activities which meet the needs of the children. Policies, procedures and record keeping systems required for the efficient and safe management of the provision are consistent across the provision, although some are brief, particularly those relating to medicine administrations, outings and allegations of abuse against

a member of staff. There is an action plan in place to meet the minimum staff qualification requirements in the after school club as only one person holds a relevant qualification.

There are procedures in place to ensure that staff have a consistent approach to their work, such as induction training, appraisals and regular team meetings. Staff promote the children's understanding of health and safety issues. The snack menu is basic but satisfactory. Nursery children's lunch boxes are appropriately refrigerated.

Nursery children confidently choose from a wide range of good quality toys and books. They initiate and extend their own play. Children have good opportunities to make decisions, explore and investigate, indoors and outdoors. Out of school children are successfully involved in the process of planning activities and have very good access to equipment on the days they use the nursery room. Children behave very well and understand the rules which are consistently implemented. Staff and children converse in a polite, courteous manner. Children are regularly praised, encouraged and rewarded for achievements and good behaviour.

Parents and carers are warmly welcomed by staff and they relate in a friendly manner. They receive some useful information about the service, however, the operational plan is not readily available.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to forward confirmation that staff are vetted and a copy of the public liability insurance; improve the qualifications of the out of school club staff; improve the attendance recording system; ensure there are operational procedures for the conduct of outings; provide after school club children with a nutritional and substantial snack; provide parents with information about the after school club and the management committee; and ensure all records relating to children can be accessed by staff.

Satisfactory progress has been made to address the actions. Some have been fully met. Parents are now better informed about the after school club, although they still receive little written information. The public liability insurance certificate is clearly displayed. All the required records relating to children are kept securely and are available to staff at all times during operation. Register systems clearly show the children's times of arrival and departure. A satisfactory snack is provided to after school children. Ten staff are employed to work in the after school club, of which only one holds a relevant qualification. There is an action plan in place to address this action, therefore, it is carried forward as a recommendation following this inspection.

Addressing these actions has improved the way the setting meets the National Standards and enhanced the quality of care for the children.

What is being done well?

- The whole building is clean and attractively decorated with children's art

work. Therefore, the environment is very welcoming for children of all ages, visitors and parents. Nursery children have sole use of a room and make good use of the facilities offered by the school, such as the large hall and the dining room.

- Staff effectively implement a behaviour management policy which is clearly documented and includes the position on bullying. Staff are good role models of polite, courteous behaviour and are consistent in their expectations of children's behaviour. They relate very well and show an interest in what the children say and do. Consequently, children behave very well.
- Nursery staff plan an interesting programme of activities and set them up in a thoughtful way, with accessible resources to support the children's learning. Play materials are stored at the children's level which enables them to select resources independently. Staff record the children's progress to inform the future planning. The children are interested and fully involved in activities and are keen to communicate with adults and each other. Staff in the after school service thoughtfully plan and provide a wide range of art and craft activities.

What needs to be improved?

- the qualifications of staff in the after school club
- staff records to include confirmation that they have been vetted
- the range of equipment available to after school club children when it is held in the classroom
- the medicine administration record keeping system to ensure that parents sign after each administration to acknowledge the entry and when signing can not read any other entries
- documentation of some procedures, particularly those relating to outings and allegations of abuse against a member of staff.

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
2	Keep clear evidence that staff have been appropriately vetted and continue to work towards at least half of the staff holding a level two qualification.
5	Review the availability of equipment in the after school club, when using the classroom, to ensure children have a good choice.
14	Extend procedures relating to outings and allegations of abuse against a member of staff; and improve the medicine administration record keeping system.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Lytham Hall Park Nursery is a high quality provision. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas. They learn through a wide range of stimulating, well planned activities.

Teaching is very good. Much of the success of the nursery is due to the way staff foster children's self esteem by valuing and responding to their interests and ideas. Staff place a high value on children creating their own art work, however, this is not always reflected in wall displays. Interaction with the children is very good and effective questioning techniques are used which enable children to think and work things out for themselves. Planning is informed by staff's good knowledge of the children's progress. The assessment records are clearly linked to the stepping stones. Staff work well as a team. They are motivated and enthusiastic in their approach and are good role models. Staff successfully consolidate children's learning through providing a broad range of linked activities, based on children's first hand experiences. Staff have due regard to the Code of Practice for the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs and there is an effective system in place to provide support.

Leadership and management is very good. Well structured management systems support staff well. Systems to monitor the effectiveness of the staff and the provision are well developed. Staff training records are clear and are linked to the organisational plan.

The partnership with parents is very good. Parents and staff informally share information about the children on a daily basis. All parents, including those who work, receive regular information about their child's activities. Informative newsletters and planning sheets have been developed to inform parents about what their child is learning. Partnership with parents is valued and positively encouraged.

What is being done well?

- The organisation of the whole setting is good. The environment is stimulating and visually welcoming. Staff have a very good understanding of the Foundation Stage and how children learn best. They plan and provide a wide range of stimulating activities which help children make links in their learning.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. This is due to a good partnership with parents, good links with the school and staff's understanding of how individual children learn best. Staff reinforce good behaviour through praise, encouragement and rewards. They value children's achievements.
- Children's imagination is fostered well through good access to well resourced role play areas. Staff thoughtfully resource the areas and provide appropriate support which enables children to make progress in all areas of learning.

What needs to be improved?

- the amount of children's own creative work on display and in their records of achievements to show that it is valued.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The setting has made very good progress to address the point for consideration from the last inspection. This relates to increasing opportunities for children to record their observations, in the area of knowledge and understanding of the word. This was part of a planned extension of scientific activities.

Children enjoy good access to a range of materials such as notepads, paper of various sizes, pens and pencils. They use the resources well to draw, make marks or write letters and numbers to record their findings from observations and experiments.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are interested, motivated and eager to try new activities. They show good personal independence by selecting their own equipment and pouring their own drinks. Children are developing an awareness of good personal hygiene and safety. Children behave very well. They talk freely about their home and are developing respect for their own culture and beliefs and that of others.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children's spoken language is developing well. They speak clearly, show awareness of the listener and use language to explore ideas during activities. Children confidently initiate conversations with visitors and talk and share their ideas with each other. Children listen attentively at story time and join in with enthusiasm. Children write for a variety of purposes and some children write recognisable letters. Children label their own work, caption displays and make their own books.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are developing good counting skills. They recognise and use numbers and simple calculations in role play areas such as the supermarket. They show a good interest in exploring shapes and fitting shapes together. Children enjoy making patterns for a purpose, such as wallpaper for the shop, using a variety of paint techniques. Children use mathematical language very well to compare size, shape and quantity through practical activities and everyday routines.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children learn about living things and the wider world through first hand experiences linked to visits from the local community such as the hedgehog hospital. Children talk enthusiastically about past and present events in their own lives and have a good sense of time and place. They show curiosity, observe, manipulate and investigate objects well using all their senses. They learn about the uses of everyday technology and use a computer to support their learning.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and safely with control, inside and outside, and are developing a good awareness of space. They skilfully stop, start and negotiate pathways on wheeled toys. Children handle tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control. Children wash their hands before eating showing an awareness of good personal hygiene.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children develop creative skills through a broad range of activities. They enthusiastically play instruments outdoors and sing along with taped music. Children move imaginatively between well planned and resourced role play areas such as the office, the supermarket and the workshop. Children explore colours and textures using all their senses, for example looking closely at exotic fruits. They respond well in pictures, spoken words and emergent writing to what they see, hear, 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:
- the way children's own art work is shown in displays and included in their records of achievements to reflect that it is valued.

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.