



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 143080

DfES Number: 514184

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 07/04/2003
Inspector Name Joyce Bowler

SETTING DETAILS

Setting Name Bishops Lydeard Pre-School
Setting Address Village Hall
Taunton
Somerset
TA4 3LH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Angela Cunningham

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.

Information about the setting
Bishops Lydeard is situated a few miles outside of Taunton, just off of the main Minehead road. The Pre-School which was established in 1969 and operates from the village hall in the centre of the village. The Supervisor of the group is Angela Cunningham, and she has a team of 8 staff who work with her. The staff are supported in their role by a committee of parents. Children attend from Bishops Lydeard, and also from other villages and new housing developments nearby. The majority of children go on to attend the local first school, and good links have been established between the two. The group is open each morning from 9.15am to 12.00pm and also several afternoon sessions. They are registered to care for up to 26 children aged from 3 to 5 years of age. They currently have 54 children on the register, 36 of these are moving on to school in September 2003. The group is registered to accept children in receipt of 3 and 4 year old funding.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Bishops Lydeard Pre-School offers high quality provision helping children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals. Teaching is very good with key strengths in personal, social and emotional development and communication, language and literacy. Staff have a clear understanding of the early learning goals. They plan as a team and are keen to engage children's interest. Evaluations of work and activities are used to inform future planning and to produce individual play plans for the children. Staff create an atmosphere conducive to learning through play by means of effective behaviour management and gentle, caring guidance. Assessment systems are good. They relate to the stepping stones in the Foundation Stage and help staff to cater for individual children's needs. Currently there are no children at the pre-school identified as having special needs although effective systems are in place to provide appropriate support. Leadership and management is very good. Staff benefit from the support of a committee who are involved in the day to day running of the group and in the wider issues of organisation, employment and fund raising. Staff and committee have a shared understanding of good early years practice and commitment to appointing appropriate new staff. The partnership with parents and carers is very good. There are plenty of opportunities for parents and staff to share information about what is going on in the group and how children are progressing.

What is being done well?

Children develop very good relationships with adults and each other. They play well together learning to share and to take turns. Behaviour is of a very high standard. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their language and communication skills. Staff are keen to ensure that all activities, both group and one to one, encourage lively interaction and discussion. Children have access to a large range of activities and resources designed to develop physical skills. Staff make effective use of equipment ensuring good opportunities both indoors and out. Staff work well as a team planning an interesting range of activities across the early learning goals. They evaluate their work and make useful assessments which are used to inform future planning. Staff provide good quality information for parents and carers keeping them up to date with what is happening in the pre-school. They are keen to provide regular feedback on how children are progressing.

What needs to be improved?

the availability of resources available on an everyday basis to support children in learning about other cultures and beliefs.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The pre-school has made generally good progress towards improvement since the last inspection. They have addressed two of the three key issues for action and made limited progress towards addressing the third. Provision of information for parents and carer's on children's progress and attainment is good. The pre-school provides access to written records and daily informal feedback on progress and development. Staff are keen to offer use of an ante room if parents would like a more private discussion. Parents can join the group at termly coffee mornings to stay and play or volunteer on the parent rota. Staff group children according to key worker groups and by age and stage of development. They offer different sessions aimed at 'rising fives' and for younger children who are new starters. Staff do plan more opportunities within the curriculum to allow children to learn about those with different beliefs and cultures. However these are largely in the form of festivals and staff provide resources only while the topics are being covered. There is some evidence of people of different nationalities in commercially produced equipment such as play figures for the dolls house and in puzzles. Staff have provided 2 lengths of sari material in the dressing up wardrobe. Existing book stores do not include titles reflecting cultural diversity. Points from this key issue will be carried forward for consideration by the pre-school when reviewing resources for each area of learning.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children make very good progress in personal, social and emotional development. They treat each other well and can play co-operatively. Kind and respectful behaviour is modelled by staff. Behaviour is excellent. Children are keen to join in and can work both in groups and independently.	
COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children make very good progress in communication, language and literacy. Staff create play and learning activities which encourage children to think and communicate their ideas. There are lots of opportunities for children to become fluent speakers engaging in conversations throughout the sessions. They develop reading skills and are able to identify familiar words around the hall as well as their names. They enjoy using books.	
MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children's progress in mathematical development is very good. Children are learning to count by use of rhymes and songs as well as with planned activities. They are able to learn about shape, size and measure by means of well planned themes. Resources for this area of learning are good.	
KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children's progress in knowledge and understanding of the world is generally good. Staff plan interesting topics so that children may find out about the world about them. Children are able to learn about patterns and cycles in life. They are able to talk about past and present events in their own lives and are supported in this by use of photographs and follow up work.	
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Very Good
Children make very good progress in physical development. Staff make full use of a wide range of resources to encourage children's overall development of physical skills. Children are given plenty of opportunities both indoors and out. They learn about the importance of hygiene and know to wash their hands after going to the toilet and before eating.	
CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
Children's progress in creative development is generally good. Staff cover a broad range of creative opportunities in their planning and resourcing for the pre-school.	

Children can express their creativity through role play, small world and imaginative play, art and craft and by use of language acquisition.
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Children's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development is fostered appropriately:
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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

Points for consideration: Bishops Lydeard Pre-School could consider addressing the limited provision of books, dressing up clothes and any other resources to support work being done to help children learn about people of different cultures and beliefs.