



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 142809

DfES Number: 584465

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 25/04/2004
Inspector Name Jennifer Barton

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name Playaways Neighbourhood Nursery
Setting Address High Street
Glastonbury
Somerset
BA6 9DZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Playaways Neighbourhood Nursery Ltd 4635696

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Playaways Neighbourhood Nursery Ltd
Address High Street
Glastonbury
Somerset
BA6 9DZ

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

Playaways Neighbourhood Nursery is a privately owned limited company and opened in September 2003; it was previously a preschool running from the same address. It operates from recently refurbished rooms at the rear of the United Reform Church close to the centre of the town of Glastonbury in Somerset. The accommodation consists of a large nursery playroom with adjoining baby unit, kitchen, office, toilets and outside play area. Children attending are mainly from the town but children from nearby villages also attend.

The nursery is registered for a maximum of 24 children aged two years to five years of age and a maximum of six babies under two years of age. There are currently 46 children on roll of these there are nine funded three year olds and four funded four year olds. At present there are no children attending with special educational needs or whom English is an additional language.

The nursery opens Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 18:00 all year round.

There are currently 11 members of staff working with the children which includes two managers and a cook. All staff working directly with the children hold or are working towards, either the Diploma in Nursery Nursing (NNEB), the Diploma in Preschool Practice (DPP), or the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in Early Years Care and Education level two or three. Staff receive support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

How good is the Day Care?

Playaways Neighbourhood Nursery provides good care overall for children aged up to five years of age. Staff provide an attractive and welcoming environment with posters, collages and children's work on display. Staff have good organisation and deployment skills. However, they need to give some attention to their registration system.

Positive steps are taken to promote hygiene, children use paper towels and have

access to paper tissues. There are comprehensive policies for health and safety issues and most aspects are good, but some procedures need to be reviewed. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues. A healthy and varied diet is encouraged.

Good steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of all the children within the setting. The staff team provide an interesting range of activities for all age groups and good resources to reflect positive images of culture, disability and religion. They take appropriate procedures to meet the needs of children through effective observations and planning. Children with special needs are well supported. Staff use consistent behaviour management strategies to encourage good behaviour.

Partnership with parents is good. Comprehensive prospectus, newsletters, notice boards and displays inform parents about the setting. They are encouraged to participate in their children's learning through sharing documentation and participating in the share/communication book scheme.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Improvement since the last inspection has been good. Staff have implemented a form to obtain written consent from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. This now enables the nursery to act in the children's best interest.

What is being done well?

- Good organisation of space, resources and staff deployment provides an effective learning and caring environment.
- Staff are proactive in supporting children's individual needs. They value all children and encourage all to participate by adapting activities and the environment.
- Adults are good role models, reinforcing manners and using praise. They value and encourage all children and are consistent. They have good strategies and are all aware of the group's policy on behaviour.
- Parents are well informed about the setting and are able to share records of their children's progress and development.

What needs to be improved?

- the recording of arrival and departure times in the register
- the procedures for checking sleeping babies
- the written consent for administering medication.

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	record the times of arrival and departure of children on a daily basis
7	obtain written permission from parents before administering medication to children

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Playaways Neighbourhood Nursery provides good quality nursery education overall which enables children to make generally good progress towards the early learning goals. Provision for personal, social and emotional development, communication, literacy and language, mathematics development and knowledge and understanding of the world is particularly well planned and children are making very good progress in these areas.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff work well as a team, they are deployed thoughtfully and are consistent in their approach which promotes good behaviour. Staff have good interaction skills which are effective in meeting the needs of all children. There are comprehensive plans across the six learning areas, but sufficient attention is not given to some aspects in physical and creative development or for extending activities. Staff complete regular observations and assessments on children and share the progress with parents.

Leadership and management is generally good. There are clear roles and responsibilities and a commitment to constantly improving the setting. Staff work together well as a team to ensure they assess, evaluate and update their procedures to provide effective nursery education. The group are developing their planning.

Partnership with parents is very good. The parents are well informed about the setting and are encouraged to share in children's progress and development.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is very good. Children are confident, independent and well behaved.
- Children's communication and language skills are developing well, they are able to share their experiences and interact well with other children and adults.
- Staff deployment and interaction skills are effective in supporting children's learning.
- Staff regularly observe and assess children's progress and attainment.
- Parents are well informed about the provision and their children progress.

What needs to be improved?

- the limited opportunities in creative activities for children to express and communicate their own ideas with art and craft materials
- the lack of challenging activities for large muscle development in the more

able children

- the planning to ensure there is sufficient attention in all aspects of the six areas of learning.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Improvement since the last inspection is generally good. Staff have introduced a number of effective measures to improve their training, evaluations and planning.

There are staff appraisals twice a year and regular staff meetings to assess strengths and weaknesses and monitor the provision. Staff have undertaken training and activities for mathematics and music are now well planned and effectively extend children's knowledge in this area.

Keyworker files have been introduced to record individual learning targets and these are considered in overall future planning to ensure children's individual needs are met.

In physical development observations and assessments are recorded in the keyworker files to show achievements but activities for the older and more able children are not challenging to meet their needs.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are developing confidence and independence and are motivated to learn and to choose their own activities. Children show respect and sensitivity to one another and to adults. They share and work well in groups, such as circle time. Staff encourage good behaviour, there is good daily routines and appropriate praise and encouragement.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children's listening and speaking skills are developing well, they are able to share their experiences and interact well with adults and children. Children are beginning to recognise their own name, they are also becoming familiar with all the letters of the alphabet and linking sounds to them. Children have opportunities to develop their writing skills with a variety of writing resources always available and through role play activities.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are learning how to use numbers and count in everyday situations. They are beginning to understand the concept of addition and subtraction and solve practical problems in these situations. They are becoming familiar with mathematical language, shape, size and quantity in activities such as construction, sand, playdough and board games.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children have good awareness of people around them and their own lives as well as learning about people from different cultures and religions. They have good opportunities to explore and investigate and find out about features of their own and the wider environment through well planned activities such as the deep sea diving in the Caribbean. Children are able to access information and communication technology to support their learning.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children show they are learning to move confidently and imaginatively in action rhymes. They move safely and with awareness of space both inside and outside. Regular physical activities help them to develop skills in using a range of small and large equipment such as balls, wheeled toys and balancing equipment. However, these activities are less challenging for the more able children. Children are able to use a range of tools and materials with increasing control and awareness of safety,

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children are able to be imaginative and to express their own ideas in role play, dressing up and construction. They are encouraged to explore sound through activities with musical instruments and tape recorders. Children's art displays show they explore, colour, texture and natural materials to be creative, but children's access to art and recycled materials to express and communicate their own ideas are limited.

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

- develop plans to ensure a balance across all aspects of the six learning areas
- ensure physical activities offer appropriate challenges for the older, more able children
- extend resources and activities for children to express and communicate their own ideas in art and craft materials.

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.