



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 143112

DfES Number: 516485

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 07/07/2003
Inspector Name Susan June Stone

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name East Chinnock Under Fives
Setting Address The Church Room
Weston St, East Chinnock
Yeovil
Somerset
BA22 9EL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of East Chinnock Under Fives

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name East Chinnock Under Fives
Address The Church Room, Weston Street
East Chinnock
Yeovil
Somerset
BA22 9EL

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

East Chinnock Under Fives is a committee run pre-school situated in a small church hall in the village of East Chinnock. The pre-school offers sessions to children from the village and surrounding areas. The accommodation consists of a play room with kitchen area and two toilets. There is a large garden outside with play area.

The pre-school is open term times only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.15am to 12 noon and on Wednesday afternoons from 13:00 to 15:30. Children have the option of staying in between for lunch.

The pre-school is registered to care for 18 children aged two to five years. They are not registered to provide overnight care. There are nine three year old children and three four year old children who are in receipt of funding. There are children attending with special educational needs. There are no children attending with English as an additional language.

There are three child care staff employed. The manager is trained to NVQ level three. The deputy holds a degree in bio chemistry and has completed pre-school foundation stage training. They are assisted by staff from the group's neighbouring pre-school in East Coker.

The pre-school receive support from the Early Years Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

East Chinnock under fives group offers satisfactory quality care for children aged two to five years.

Staff have a good understanding of the development needs of the children in their care. They make effective use of space and resources and create a child orientated environment. They promote learning and development by providing a broad range of activities for the children to take part in. Staff are consistent in their approach and work well together as a team to ensure that the children's individual needs are met.

Children are developing good relationships with staff and each other. They are learning to respect each other as individuals. Children listen with interest when a child shares his experiences of living in a different country. Children are well behaved, they know and understand the levels for expected behaviour. They respond well to the positive guidance and praise which is freely given by staff.

Staff give high priority to ensuring the children are safe within the setting. A detailed risk assessment is in place which is regularly reviewed. Planning also indicates actions to take to address identified risks within individual activities. Daily routines demonstrate a good understanding of health and safety. Staff are vigilant to the safety of the children at all times.

Relationships with parents are good. Available to parents is a comprehensive operational plan. However this has not been updated in line with the national standards and is lacking in some details. Written agreements from parents are also not in place for all children to allow the group to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. Parents are encouraged to become involved in their children's learning and help within the group. Staff are happy to talk with parents about their children's progress. Parents are kept informed about the group through newsletters and information on the notice board.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group agreed to obtain written permission from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. This is now indicated on the registration form and has been gained for new children to the group. However new forms have not been completed for children already attending the group.

What is being done well?

- Staff effectively use space and resources to create an environment that is child orientated. They provide a broad range of activities that promote learning and development in all areas.
- Staff ensure that the individual needs of children are met. Children are developing good relationships with staff and peers. They are learning to respect each other as individuals.
- Daily routines and practise demonstrate staff have a good understanding of safety and potential risks to children Staff are vigilant to children's safety.
- Children know and understand the levels of expected behaviour and are well behaved.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents are encouraged to become involved in their children's learning and to help within the group.

What needs to be improved?

- information available to parents;

- written consent from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment;
- written Complaints Policy and Child Protection Policy.

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
7	ensure written permission from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment is obtained for all children
12	update complaints procedure and operational plan to identify OFSTED as the registering body and an avenue to voice concerns or complaints.
13	update child protection procedure to identify procedures if an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff or volunteer

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

How effective is the nursery education?

East Chinnock Under Fives offers good quality provision helping children make generally good progress towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is generally good. The staff have a good understanding of the early learning goals.

They apply effective teaching methods to promote positive attitudes to learning and motivation. They offer interesting activities and experiences in which children can contribute and get involved. They encourage them to think, question and discuss. The staff and resources are well organised allowing the children to enjoy a smoothly run session and to gain as much as possible from the resources. Plans, however do not show how activities will be supported or extended for children. Plans do not include opportunities for children to calculate.

Partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are offered comprehensive information about the setting and it's working practices. They are kept up to date through notice boards and termly newsletters. Parents are encouraged to get involved through helping practically in the group. They are informed of forthcoming topics and events to allow them to contribute. There are however, limited opportunities for parents to discuss their child's achievements and progress.

Leadership and management is generally good. The staff and committee are clear about their roles and responsibilities and work together efficiently and well. The pre-school is committed to improvement of care and education. The committee support staff training opportunities to ensure they are equipped with relevant knowledge and skills. The staff have developed good liaison with the local village school and the children's future reception teacher. Staff, however do not keep written evaluation of planned activities to show how they can be improved, supported or how they can be adapted for children with special needs.

What is being done well?

- Children are developing good personal independence. They visit the toilet alone, wash hands independently and access resources for themselves. Staff encourage children to think for themselves and make decisions.
- Children's language is developing well. They speak clearly, listen well and show an enjoyment of stories, songs and discussion. They have lots of opportunities to extend their vocabulary from learning new words and meanings.
- Children are offered excellent opportunities to explore and investigate using all their senses. They study living things, investigate growth and look at change. They talk about why things happen and how things work.

- Children use their imaginations well in art and craft, role play, music and interactive stories. Staff encourage children to express themselves and share their ideas.
- The staff apply effective teaching methods to promote positive attitudes and motivation. They offer interesting activities and experiences in which children can contribute and get involved. They encourage children to think, question and discuss.

What needs to be improved?

- Opportunities for children to calculate.
- Methods of planning and evaluation to include how activities will be extended and supported.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The staff have extended the programme for language and literacy. Children are encouraged to make up stories and adventures. The staff offer fun activities and projects to develop children's understanding of letters and words.

The staff have extended the programme for knowledge and understanding of the world. They offer children interesting experiences and topics in which they can get involved. They encourage children to think and make decisions through discussion and asking lots of open ended questions.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress. They are developing self confidence and self esteem. They openly express their own views and feelings within the group and are developing a respect for others. Children are developing good personal independence. They visit the toilet and wash hands on their own, they independently access resources for themselves. Staff encourage children to think for themselves and make decisions.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress. They speak clearly, listen well and show an enjoyment of stories, songs and discussion. They have lots of opportunities to extend their vocabulary and are learning how to use words to describe feelings and experiences through discussion and descriptive writing. Children make good use of the books and are learning to use them to locate information. They are learning how to hold and use a pencil correctly and how to write correctly formed letters.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are making generally good progress. They can count from 1 - 9 with confidence, some older children count to 20 spontaneously. Older children can recognise numbers 1 - 10 in letter and digit form and can use their knowledge to sequence them. Children are developing a good understanding of shape, size and position. Staff encourage children to use the correct language to describe their activity. There are however, limited opportunities for children to calculate.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are making very good progress. They study living things, investigate growth and look at change. They talk about why things happen and how things work. Staff use the rain forest topic to provide them with excellent opportunities to explore and investigate using all their senses e.g. exotic fruits, plants and animals. Children learn about different cultures, beliefs and life styles through topic work and through children's own experiences of living and holidaying abroad.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
------------	-----------

Children are making very good progress. They move with confidence and co-ordination when using large and small scale equipment. Staff support the younger children well to teach them how to use the equipment correctly and safely. They are learning about their bodies and how to stay healthy e.g. independent hand washing, cleaning fruit before eating it. Children use a range of tools with safety and control in art and craft, chopping fruit and during special project e.g. making re-cycled paper.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
------------	-----------

Children are making very good progress. They use their imaginations well in art and craft and role play situations. Staff organise activities including music and interactive stories e.g. the magic journey in the garden where children share their ideas. They express their thoughts and feelings well through a variety of experiences, using all their senses to respond e.g. how new fruits taste, what musical instrument sound like. They consider how they feel about things such as spiders.

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 include more opportunities for children to calculate.
- Develop methods of planning and evaluation to include how activities can be extended and supported as necessary.

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.