



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109480

DfES Number: 521635

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 01/12/2004  
Inspector Name Sue Taylor

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care  
Setting Name Pevensey and Westham Playgroup  
Setting Address c/o Pevensey Memorial Hall  
Church Lane  
Pevensey  
East Sussex  
BN24 5LA

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Management Committee

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Management Committee  
Address Church Lane  
Pevensey  
East Sussex  
BN24 5LA

## 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

Pevensey and Westham Playgroup opened in 1969 and operates from two rooms in Pevensey Memorial Hall. It is situated within the village centre. A maximum of 40 children may attend the playgroup at any one time. The playgroup is open each weekday from 09:15 to 11:45 for 38 weeks of the year. All children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 51 children aged from 2 to under 5 years on roll. Of these 33 children receive funding for nursery education. Children come from a wide catchment area. The playgroup supports children with special educational needs, and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The playgroup employs nine staff. Six of the staff, including the supervisor, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Three staff are working towards a qualification.

### How good is the Day Care?

Pevensey and Westham Playgroup provide good care for children.

A clear recruitment process is place that helps ensure the suitability of the staff, most of whom are qualified. The sessions are well organised, providing interesting and stimulating activities. The premises are warm and welcoming, with good natural light. The space is used well with varied activity areas meeting the needs of all children. The outdoor play space is used in most weathers. Children make choices from a wide range of good quality play materials, that are put out each day and that vary during a session. All of the required documentation is in place, though some record keeping is less effective.

The premises are secure with access monitored. The staff are vigilant and supervise children well. The radiators are checked daily but can get hot to touch at times. Staff observe good hygiene procedures and children learn healthy practices, such as

hand washing. Drinking water is available to children throughout the session. The fruit week helps to promote healthy eating. Dietary needs are met and fully discussed with parents. Clear procedures are in place to help protect children and guide staff in child protection matters.

The sessions are well planned, with children fully engaged in the activities and in their own choice of play. The staff are very involved with the children and their play. Interactions are good, with staff listening to children and extending their thinking. Children are confident and concentrate well. Their own cultures and home languages are valued and respected. They behave very well, supported by the staff who act as good role models and build trusting and caring relationships.

The friendly environment helps parents and carers feel welcomed. They can settle their children in and talk to the staff. They are positively encouraged to view their child's progress records and be involved in their learning.

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

At the last inspection the group were asked to keep a record of visitors. This has been met well with the introduction of a visitor's book. Staff check people's identification and ensure the book is completed, helping to maintain a safe environment for children.

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

- The children's confidence is very good. They relate well with others, both children and adults. They play happily, together or independently, at an activity.
- The adult to child ratio is good. The number of staff more than meets the minimum requirement. This allows for some one to one attention that helps children progress and enable the younger children to settle in.
- The range of textures that children have to explore during the session. They get to experience cornflour with water, wet and dry sand, pasta, sawdust and bubble wrap. This is in addition to craft activities and painting. The staff interact well with the children, asking challenging questions and getting children to use all of their senses.
- Communication with parents and carers is good. They are welcomed into the group, can speak to the staff or their child's key worker. Policies and procedures are easily accessed. Parents spend time looking at the work folders of the pre-school children, gaining an understanding of their progress.

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

- record keeping, particularly relating to the administration of medication
- children's safety in relation to the radiators.

**PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)**

There are no complaints to report.

**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	Ensure radiators and pipes are not hazardous to the children.
14	Ensure parents countersign the medication record sheets after medication is administered.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

The provision for nursery education at Pevensey and Westham Playgroup is acceptable and of high quality. Children are making very good progress towards all the early learning goals. They are confident, eager to learn, and participate enthusiastically in the wide range of interesting activities provided.

The quality of teaching is very good and staff interaction with the children is excellent. The staff have a secure knowledge of the Foundation Stage. They provide a well balanced and stimulating curriculum which covers all areas of learning. Staff plan a variety of practical activities and understand what children can learn from them. There is an effective observation system in place which is used to assess the children's progress and informally to plan the next steps for learning. There is a broad range of resources which staff use well to support children's learning. Children enjoy books but they are not readily accessible throughout the free play session. Staff are supportive and build positive, caring relationships with the children. They know the individual children well. Staff are good role models and have high expectations of children's behaviour. Staff are very skilled at developing children's language and mathematical development.

The leadership and management of the setting are very good. The staff team is well established and motivated. They work well together and have a collaborative approach to their work. They regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their provision. Ongoing training and staff development is encouraged.

The partnership with parents and carers is very good. Information about the setting and the educational provision is helpful and accessible. Parents are welcome in the group and spend time talking informally to staff about their children. Records of children's progress are systematically shared with parents. Parents are well informed and are actively involved in the assessment of their child's progress.

### What is being done well?

- Staff's clear understanding of the early learning goals leads to well organised activities which engage and sustain children's interests. The staff create imaginative and fun play situations. They also provide a wide range of stimulating activities where children explore different materials and objects.
- Staff are very good at developing language; they value what children say and do; and effectively model and reinforce language. They use very good questioning techniques to encourage children to think about what they are doing and to talk about their experiences.
- The group has a very wide range of good quality resources which are used effectively to promote children's development. The wall displays are also used well to reinforce children's learning.

- Staff provide excellent support and interaction during number activities which results in children developing a very good understanding of mathematical concepts. This is particularly evident in the way children are able to use simple calculation and the language relating to addition and subtraction.
- There is good two way communication between parents and staff. Parents are kept well informed and have a good understanding of what children are learning. They have weekly access to their child's files so that they can see what their child has achieved. Staff actively encourage parents to contribute to the children's profiles on a regular basis at formal meetings.

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

- the availability of books for children to enjoy throughout the free play session.

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

Very good progress has been made since the last inspection. The staff have introduced an effective record keeping system which ensures that children's progress towards the early learning goals is charted.

The information available to parents about their child's progress has considerably improved. The parents have many opportunities to see their child's records both formally and informally. They are encouraged to discuss their child's progress with the keyworker. They are now well informed about their child's attainments.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children arrive happily and quickly involve themselves in activities already laid out. Children are very confident and demonstrate trust by approaching adults for support. They concentrate well on self-chosen and adult led activities. They work well on their own and with others. Children relate well to adults and peers. They are learning to share and take turns. Children behave well and respond to the praise and encouragement. Children's independence is developing well.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children speak confidently to peers and adults. They show increasing confidence in speaking at group times. They are learning new vocabulary and express their ideas well. Children enjoy books and listen avidly to stories. Children enjoy writing for a wide variety of purposes and show good hand and eye co-ordination. They recognise letters and are learning the link between sounds and letters.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children learn to use numbers and mathematical language through a good range of practical activities and everyday situations. They are developing good counting skills. Some children can recognise a group of three objects without counting. Many children are able to recognise some numerals. Children are developing a good understanding of simple calculation particularly through songs and number rhymes. There are numerous opportunities for children to explore shape, space, and measurement.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children enjoy exploring a wide range of natural and man made objects and materials. They regularly use their senses to investigate and experiment. They show increasing skills at designing and constructing models. Children confidently use everyday technology and have regular access to a computer. They talk knowledgeably about past and present events in their own lives. Children learn about other cultures and the local environment.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and safely. They have many opportunities to develop good co-ordination, using a variety of small and large equipment. They learn to negotiate space and manoeuvre ride on toys. Their fine motor skills are developing well and they handle small tools confidently. They learn about good personal hygiene and how to keep healthy. They enjoy music and movement activities, joining in enthusiastically.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children use their senses to explore and describe a range of experiences. They freely express their ideas in the art and craft activities available. They explore sound by making music with instruments and voices. They sing with enthusiasm and have a wide repertoire of songs. They express themselves freely during role-play and enjoy acting out familiar scenarios.

**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 opportunities for children to enjoy books throughout the free play session.

*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.*