



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 309742

DfES Number: 596407

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 03/02/2005
Inspector Name Denise Sixsmith

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name St Andrews Nursery Group
Setting Address St Andrews CE Infant School
Woodlea Road
Leyland
Lancashire
PR25 1JL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of St Andrews Nursery Group

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name St Andrews Nursery Group
Address St Andrews CE Infant School
Woodlea Road
Leyland
Lancashire
PR25 1JL

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

St Andrew's Nursery Group has been registered since 1998 and operates from a dedicated space within St Andrew's Church of England Infant School in Leyland. The nursery is open each weekday from 09:00 to 11:30 and 12:45 to 15:15 during school term times. Children attend morning or afternoon sessions. There is access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 50 children on roll. Of these 49 children receive funding for nursery education. The majority of children attending will attend the school. The nursery currently supports children with special educational needs.

The nursery is operated by a Committee, which employs four staff including the manager, three of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. Support is received from the Sure Start, Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

St. Andrews Nursery Group provides good care for children. The well established management and staff team have a clear operational plan in place ensuring the smooth running of the nursery. The staff team complete required records effectively with the majority of the policies in place. Staff have a commitment to furthering their development through attending regular courses, keeping them up to date with current practice. Good team work and effective use of the key worker system, space and good quality resources ensures a relaxed, inviting environment is provided for the children.

Staff adhere well to the comprehensive health and safety procedures. They promote good hygiene, with children being encouraged to take responsibility for washing their hands at appropriate times. Dietary requirements are noted and followed. Sufficient staff hold first aid certificates and all have a satisfactory knowledge of child protection issues.

The staff and children have positive relationships with good behaviour being valued

and children's self esteem being fostered well through praise. Staff are patient, calm and caring towards the children. They plan a range of activities to enable the children to use their imagination and develop their creativity and curiosity. Children are respected as individuals and staff meet their needs well. There are many opportunities for children to make choices with toys and activities being easily accessible. Children's achievements are acknowledged and celebrated.

Partnership with parents is very good. Staff share information daily about activities and the children's care and development. They take time to find out about children's needs from the outset. Parents speak highly of the nursery and value the "friendly and helpful" staff.

What has improved since the last inspection?

It was agreed at the last inspection that parental permission would be obtained for emergency medical advice or treatment to be sought and that confidentiality and security of personal information would be ensured. The nursery have effectively addressed the issues raised. Parental permission has been included at registration, individual records are now in place and personal documentation is locked away. This ensures that requirements are met and an improved service is provided for the children and their families.

What is being done well?

- Good use is made of space and resources ensuring that children can move freely and with confidence. Both rooms are use well to ensures that all children have the opportunity to work in small groups with a member of staff throughout the day or engage in quiet activities.
- Toys, equipment and materials are of a very good quality. Staff use them well to provide a balanced range of activities which promote the children's development. They organise the stimulating resources effectively to ensure that children have choices and opportunity to develop their decision making skill.
- The relationship between staff and children is good. Staff are calm, gentle and caring towards the children. They take into account their individual needs well ensuring children's self esteem is fostered.
- The staff team is well established and provides continuity of care for both the morning and afternoon children. One part time staff member works in the reception class ensuring ongoing continuity for the children who move through into the school.

What needs to be improved?

- reviewing of the policies to ensure they are specific to the nursery and include the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer

- checking of the first aid box to ensure the contents have not exceeded their expiry date.

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 since April 2004.

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
7	Ensure that the contents of the first aid box are in date.
13	Ensure that the child protection procedure includes procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.
14	Review the policies to ensure they are specific to the nursery.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

St. Andrews Nursery Group provides high quality nursery education. Children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning through a wide range of stimulating, well planned activities.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a very good knowledge of the Foundation Stage Curriculum and have a firm understanding of how children learn. They provide many practical, immediate experiences that enable children to learn and explore at their own pace. Planning is very well thought out and delivered. Staff observe and record children's progress consistently in both planned and free activities to ensure that learning is focused on children's needs and abilities. Good teaching strategies are used alongside the resources to encourage children to be independent active learners. 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 good support for children. Staff are positive role models and have good warm relationships with the children.

The leadership and management is very good. This is reflected through the strong well established management group who are very committed to providing high quality care and education for the children, supported by an enthusiastic staff team who take full advantage of the training opportunities provided.

Parents have a very positive view of the playgroup. They speak confidently and knowledgeably about the group and their children's learning. There are good, systematic formal and informal methods of sharing information about children's development and learning. All parents are encouraged to become involved in their children's learning by contributing to the children's ongoing record of achievement.

What is being done well?

- The well designed bright cheerful rooms that provides a variety of areas for children to engage in small and large group activities as well as find a quiet area for reflection.
- The strong well established leadership and management of the nursery that is very committed to providing high quality care and education for the children. The enthusiastic staff team who take full advantage of the training opportunities provided to keep up to date with current practice.
- The staff team is well established and provides continuity of care for both the morning and afternoon children. One part time staff member works in the reception class ensuring ongoing continuity for the children who move through into the school.
- The good, effective, systematic formal and informal methods of sharing information about children's development and learning with parents. The

ongoing exchange of documentation and regular meetings when feedback from parents is actively sought. Parents spoken to were aware of the children's records of achievement and were very pleased with the level of information they received about their children's progress.

What needs to be improved?

- usage of the outdoor area

What has improved since the last inspection?

Staff have made very good progress in tackling the points raised at the last inspection.

Counting is now included in everyday practical activities especially during snack time and registration. Counting rhymes are planned and included in the sessions as well as activities provided in the continuous provision to ensure children develop their mathematical understanding through practical activities.

A well equipped workshop area has been developed to ensure that the children have good access to a variety of resources and materials to enable them to practice their designing and building skills.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are very excited and eager to engage in the activities as they enter the nursery. They concentrate quietly and with persistence at a variety of self initiated play. This includes selecting paper and cards to write on and a range of collage materials in the well equipped writing and workshop area. Children take on small tasks of responsibility eagerly, collecting and pouring the drinks confidently at snack time. They show pride in the work that they produce.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confidently learning new words through well planned activities with plenty of support from staff who are very vigilant in praising the use of new words. They use picture books to help them to make clay models of vehicles stating that fire fighters ride in the fire engine. Children are forming recognisable letters and some write their names competently. They recognise their own names and those of friends on the registration board very well and add their names to the tidy up list.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children enjoy singing number songs. They are learning about numbers and counting very well during practical activities, counting the 20 children present at registration and the smaller number in their group for snack time. Children are competently using mathematical language and independently line up 4 containers from small to big then fill them with "more water needed for the big ones". They sort items well during tidy up time and use positional language well.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children show curiosity, observe, manipulate and investigate using all their senses through a very good range of topics and real life experiences that sustain and develop their interest. They learn about other countries as well as making maps of the immediate outside grounds. Children eagerly learn to use the computer with its internet connection to support other areas of their learning. The children delight in operating the tape recorder to listen to sounds and record themselves.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have a good awareness of space and consideration for others when moving around the rooms. They run with confidence while they follow the pathways in the outside larger space. Children handle tools competently and safely, they have many opportunities to cut around shapes and create their own for their collage. They squeal with delight while squeezing the play dough through shape machines creating long shaped strands like hair or spaghetti.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children express themselves very well through a varied, range of creative activities they self select throughout the sessions. They create large colourful textured paintings in the quiet painting area. Children enjoy the range of musical instruments deciding whether they bang, blow or shake them including a 'didgeridoo' from Australia. Children engage actively in the role play trip to Blackpool.

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:
- further development of outdoor play

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.