



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 109961

DfES Number: 519798

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/03/2004
Inspector Name Amanda Shedden

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name THE NANCY HARPER NURSERY
Setting Address ST FAITHS PARISH HALL
BACK STREET, ST CROSS
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE
SO23 9SB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Mrs Janice Mardle & Mrs Elizabeth Crump
Address St Faith's Parish Hall
Back Street
Winchester
Hampshire
SO23 9SB

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

The Nancy Harper Nursery opened 48 years ago. Seven years ago Mrs Mardle and Mrs Crump took over as joint owners and leaders. The nursery has the use of two rooms, a kitchen, toilets and an outdoor hard surfaced area. The children are grouped according to their ages, each room has their own allocated staff. It operates from St Faith's Parish Hall, St Cross. The nursery serves the local area.

There are currently 82 children on roll. This includes 38 funded three year olds and 13 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. At present no children who have special needs or children who speak English as an additional language attend the group. Strategies are in place to support children if they do attend.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 9:00 to 12:00 Monday to Friday and on Tuesday and Wednesday from 13:00 to 15:00. The youngest children attend for the afternoon sessions only.

Three part time staff and seven full time staff work with the children. All have early years qualifications. The supervisors attend the cluster meetings at the local infant school.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The Nancy Harper Nursery offers very good quality nursery education where children enjoy learning through a wide range of interesting activities. Effective teaching helps children make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

The quality of teaching is very good. Staff have a good knowledge of individual children, and praise and encourage them increasing confidence and self esteem. Staff have a sound understanding of the early learning goals and provide a stimulating environment. Planning and assessment reflect children's individual needs and highlight how they differentiate from younger and older children to ensure that effective learning takes place. Staff are effective in supporting children who are less confident and also challenge the more able children by open ended questioning, encouraging them to think. Staff organise and use the volume of good quality resources well to support children's progress in all areas of learning. No children currently attend with special needs or for whom English is a second language but effective strategies are in place to support them.

Leadership and management is very good. Staff work well as a team and clear communication and a good understanding of each of their roles allows them to provide a stimulating, well balanced programme. The managers encourage training and cascade it down to all staff ensuring that they are kept up to date with any new ideas or requirements.

Partnership with parents and carers is very good. Staff provide a welcoming and supportive environment and give parents quality information about the provision, it's routines and activities. Most parents contribute and share information about their child.

What is being done well?

- Staff use conversations and discussions effectively to enable the children to develop their ideas and build upon their own knowledge. All staff fully understand the content and learning outcomes of the planned activities.
- Children's personal social and emotional development is very good. Children are confident, sociable and have caring relationships with each other and staff.
- Staff imaginatively incorporate all areas of learning into the planning ensuring the children are offered a wide range of exciting activities. Assessments made on the children and on the activities provided are effectively used to further inform and develop the planning.
- Relationships between the staff, parents and children are very good. The

children are keen to attend the group and the parents are supportive.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunities for parents to further contribute and share information about their child.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The nursery has made generally good progress since the last inspection. The staff are fully aware of the desired learning outcomes. Assessment systems now reflect the stepping stones.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are actively involved in their learning. They are confident, work well independently and show high levels of concentration, for example during creative and imaginative play. Children work well together and co-operate when playing together i.e. when making the train track or putting "fires" out. Children's behaviour is very good, they are clearly aware of the routines of the day.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children spoken language is developing well. They express their real and imagined experiences during a good range of activities. Children learn new vocabulary whilst looking at mini beasts, for example cocoon, grasshopper. Children recognise letters of the alphabet and associate sounds with letters through a range of interesting and worthwhile activities. Children come to recognise and read their names through such ways as finding their names to "register" themselves on arrival.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children enjoy a broad range of practical activities to promote an understanding of shape and number. Children are encouraged through routines and incidental opportunities to learn mathematical language and to solve problems. Children learn about addition and subtraction through practical and worthwhile activities and are confident in recognising and using numbers up to nine.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children enjoy the activities and resources to explore and investigate for instance when looking at mini beasts and planting bulbs and seeds. They learn about their local environment through topic work on home and families. Children are able to build and construct a wide range of objects using appropriate tools and techniques to shape, assemble and join materials.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

The children move confidently and imaginatively and are aware of space and each other. Children have access to a wide range of resources to enhance their physical development. They learn about the importance of keeping healthy through planned activities.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children enjoy a good balance of adult directed and child led art and craft activities, where they can use their imagination and be creative. Children have access to and use a range of materials like sand, water, paint and chalk. Children sing simple songs and nursery rhymes from memory, and perform the actions that go with them.

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 issues to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following:
- develop current systems to allow parents to contribute further and share information about their child.

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.