



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 134042

DfES Number: 516578

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/02/2004  
Inspector Name Carolyn Ceglarek

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Oxford Montessori Nursery  
Setting Address Church Way  
Iffley  
Oxford  
Oxfordshire  
OX4 4EG

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Judith Walker

## 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

The Oxford Montessori Nursery opened in 1996. It operates from Church Hall premises in Iffley village. The Oxford Montessori Nursery serves the local area.

There are currently 18 children from 2 to 5 years on roll. This includes 8 funded three year olds and 4 funded four year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports one child with special needs and one who speaks English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 08:30 until 15:00.

Two full time staff work with the children. One member of staff has a Montessori Diploma and the other member of staff has the Montessori Certificate of Theory and is working towards the diploma qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) .

### How good is the Day Care?

The Oxford Montessori Nursery Iffley provides satisfactory care for children. The premises are welcoming, well maintained and have attractive well presented displays throughout. Play areas are large enough to give scope for free movement and well spread out activities. There are separate areas for different activities. Toys, equipment and resources are adequate for the numbers of children attending and promote children's play and learning. Staff offer children appropriate praise and encouragement.

Comprehensive daily risk assessments have been introduced these now need to be developed and personalised for this setting. Although minimum staff ratios are maintained , the overall supervision of children can be difficult and does not always allow children's individual needs to be met . This needs to be considered when planning the daily routine, activities, outdoor play and outings. The groups

procedures for nappy changing and sleeping need to be improved.

Generally relationships with parents are good however, some parents want more feedback about their children's progress. Improvements have been made to the groups policies and curriculum planning however, improvements need to continue to ensure all policies and procedures are in line with registration requirements, current legislation, the National Full Day Care Standards and Guidance. Some of the groups individual record also require more detail.

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

Not applicable

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

- The nursery offers appropriate Montessori resources and displays are well presented throughout the nursery.
- The nursery provides an induction pack for new parents and the groups policies and procedures are accessible to them.
- Children have opportunities to choose their own activities. They particularly enjoy playing with the farmyard which they have helped to produce.

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

- staffs knowledge of policies and procedures following induction.
- evidence of vetting for supply staff.
- completion of a visitors record.
- staff's ability to meet children's individual needs.
- procedures for nappy changing.
- sleeping arrangements for young children.
- supervision of children outdoors.
- safety on short outings.
- parental permission for the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment.
- recording of accidents to staff.
- confidentiality of children's individual information.
- procedures for when a child has no lunch.
- the written consent from parents as to who can collect their child.
- behaviour policy and procedures.
- child protection documentation.

**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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
2	Produce a procedure to be followed in the event of a parent failing to collect a child.	03/02/2004
2	Ensure details of the registered provider are available on the premises.	03/02/2004
5	Make sure that small items that a child could choke on are inaccessible to young children.	03/02/2004
13	Ensure that there is a trained member of staff who has responsibility for child protection issues.	01/05/2004
13	Ensure that the child protection procedure for the nursery complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures.	01/05/2004
14	Review all policies and procedures and maintain them in accordance with the National Standards and Guidance	03/02/2004

**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
1	Ensure all staff working in the nursery complete the vetting process.
2	Ensure the induction process is effective.
2	Ensure registration arrangements show when visitors are present.
2	Ensure sufficient staff are present and working directly with the children to meet the individual needs of the children attending.
4	Make sure children have privacy when nappies are changed and they have the opportunity to wash their hands when appropriate.
4	Provide individual clean bedding and appropriate sleep mats for children

	who need to rest.
4	Review the outdoor play procedure.
6	Conduct risk assessments for short outings and the premises identifying actions to be taken to minimize identified risks.
7	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.
7	Record all staff accidents.
7	Make sure that no confidential information is left on public view when the nursery is not using the building.
8	Ensure suitable arrangements are in place for children who forget their lunch.
11	Ensure that there is a named staff member who is responsible for behaviour management issues. Update the behaviour policy to include bullying.
12	Obtain parents signature and prior written consent as to who can collect their child.
12	Ensure there is a system in place for the regular exchange of information between staff and parents and confidentiality is maintained.
13	Obtain the local child protection leaflet and Sure Start information.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

The nursery education at Oxford Montessori Nursery Iffley is good. Children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals .very good progress in several areas of learning.

The overall quality of teaching is generally good. The staff work positively with the children, encouraging them to be confident and independent. They are committed to raising standards. Staff plan for what they expect the children to learn. There is a new assessment process in place to inform the planning of activities, though the effectiveness of this is yet to be proven. Staff support children well during most activities, using appropriate questioning to extend children's knowledge; sometimes there is insufficient adult support and safety is compromised.

Leadership and management is generally good. Staff are well supported by the management and are encouraged to attend training for the benefit of the nursery. Staff are able to contribute to the day to day running of the nursery, and have some input in the planning. Some of the planning is supplied by central management and the staff need to ensure that they interpret this accurately.

Partnership with parents and carers is generally good. Regular opportunities are provided to discuss children's progress, both formally at parents' evenings, and informally on a day to day basis. Information available to parents is informative about the daily planning, and areas of learning the children are covering each day. Parents are made to feel welcome, but they are not always kept as fully informed of their children's progress as they would like.

### What is being done well?

- Staff provide opportunities for children to develop in their Communication, Language and Literacy, Mathematical skills, Creative development, and Knowledge and Understanding of the World. Children are confident, independent, and motivated as learners.
- Children enjoy a good range of stimulating and exciting activities. Staff make good use of the local environment to help children learn about people, places, and the world around them.

### What needs to be improved?

- increase opportunities for children to listen and respond to a broader range of music;
- develop further opportunities for children to learn about Information Technology;

- extend planning to include information about the proposed learning outcomes of all activities.

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

This is not applicable.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are actively encouraged to be responsible for all their own actions, and be sensitive to others. They are confident and outgoing, supporting each other and interacting well with staff. However there is not always sufficient staff support, and the less confident children spend time wandering around the room.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are given opportunities on a daily basis to develop early writing skills. Book sharing during the day is fostering an interest in stories and information.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children have opportunities to a wide range of activities and play materials to encourage learning about counting, shape, measure, and calculations. Children confidently count up to ten and beyond in everyday activities. They have a good variety of opportunities to learn to recognise numerals.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are keen to discuss their thoughts and feelings with interested adults. They have opportunities to build and construct to their own ideas, and extend their interests in diverse directions. But children are not provided with opportunities to use information and communication technology

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are provided with a good variety of tools and equipment to develop their manipulative skills. They handle tools safely and with increasing control. There is daily opportunity to use outdoor equipment and they are learning to move safely and confidently.

### CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children express their ideas daily through a range of activities; and their work is displayed well, which gives children the confidence that their ideas are valued. Children use a variety of tools and materials to explore texture and colour.

**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**

- there are no significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to the following:
- increase opportunities for children to listen and respond to a broader range of music;
- develop further opportunities for children to learn about Information Technology;
- extend planning to include information about the proposed learning outcomes of all activities.

*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.*