



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 254664

DfES Number: 512981

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 15/07/2003
Inspector Name Helen Clark

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Grangewood Preschool
Setting Address Grangewood Road
Wollaton
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG8 2SJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Grangewood Preschool Committee

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Grangewood Preschool Committee
Address Grangewood Preschool
Grangewood Road
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG8 2SJ

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

Grangewood pre-school opened in the 1960's. It operates from a large hall and two adjacent rooms in Grangewood methodist church, Wollaton. It is close to shops and local facilities with bus routes into Nottingham city centre. The pre-school serves the immediate community and has good links with local schools. There are currently 46 children on roll. All of the three and four-year-olds are funded. Children attend a variety of sessions. The group opens five days a week during school term time. Sessions are from 09:00 until 11:45. Six full and part-time staff work with the children, over half have early years qualifications and three staff have recieved training in first aid for babies and young children. The setting recieves support from the Nottingham Early Years and Childcare Partnership and is currently working towards the Pre-school Learning Alliance accreditation scheme.

How good is the Day Care?

Grangewood pre-school provides good quality care for children. The physical environment is very good, children benefit from a spacious hall for free play and additional side rooms for small group work. Staff rotas, which are understood by all, ensure good staff deployment. Staff use their time effectively working with the children all of the time. Staff regularly update their knowledge and skills through training and self evaluation. Most aspects of documentation is satisfactory.

Staff have a good awareness of health safety issues within the setting. Comprehensive risk assessments are carried out daily to ensure the environment and equipment is safe and suitable. Good procedures are in place to ensure all adults are aware of children's individual needs and children with special needs are supported well.

The pre-school is extremely well resourced. The equipment available to children is of high quality and used well. Staff give high priority to equal opportunities, many steps are taken to ensure all children are included and valued. Skilful interactions by staff ensure children's behaviour is managed in a way that promotes their welfare and development. Good behaviour is encouraged and well rewarded.

The partnership with parents is very good. Clear policies and procedures ensure parents are fully informed about how the pre-school is run. Staff welcome parents into the setting and there is a two-way flow of information. Parents comment their children are happy at the pre-school and are well cared for.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting agreed to put systems into place to record any incidents that occur on the premises. All such events are now correctly documented and monitored to ensure children's safety.

What is being done well?

- High priority is given to updating staff's knowledge and understanding to improve the quality of care and education provided to the children.
- The large selection of good quality resources are used creatively to support children's learning.
- Staff use their time effectively to provide many worthwhile learning experiences for the children.
- Good procedures in place to support children with special needs.

What needs to be improved?

- documentation, to ensure a written procedure is in place for staff to follow when taking children off from the premises.
- documentation, to ensure the child protection policy includes the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff.
- documentation, to ensure a signed record is kept of any existing injuries to children.

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
4	devise a policy that is shared with parents about the procedures to follow in the event of taking children out of the building.
7	ensure a signed record is kept of existing injuries.
13	ensure the child protection policy contains the procedures to follow in the event of any allegations made against a member of staff.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Grangewood pre-school offers good nursery education where children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is very good. Staff have good knowledge of the stepping stones and early learning goals. They assess children's development through regular observation and plan a range of learning experiences to encourage their all round development. Children are provided with sufficient challenge in most areas although opportunities to practice more difficult tasks such as pouring drinks are limited. The large selection of resources are used well particularly at group times, staff are well prepared and the clever use of puppets holds their interest and makes learning fun. Behaviour is managed well, skilful interaction from staff help children accept the needs of others, take turns and share. There is a good system in place to support children with special needs.

Leadership and management is very good. The setting benefits from clear leadership and good team work by staff. There is a strong commitment to improvement through regular evaluation of the educational provision and continual staff development.

Partnership with parents is very good. They are provided with good quality information about the setting and the educational provision. Regular exchange of information ensures the individual needs of children are met. Parents are encouraged to become involved in their children's learning through regular newsletters that provide information about current topics and themes, helping out during session times and involvement with the groups committee.

What is being done well?

- Skilful interaction by staff provide children with opportunities to develop their social skills.
- Resources are used creatively and imaginatively to support children's learning and maintain their interest.
- Regular observations, comments from others and accreditation schemes are used purposefully to improve the care and education provided.
- Children maintain attention, concentrate and sit quietly at story time. They listen carefully to the reader and anticipate what will happen next.
- Lots of practical activities provided to develop children's concept of number and counting.
- Children use information and communication technology confidently throughout the pre-school session. They regular access the computers and select stories and songs on the tape player.

- Music, singing and dance in all forms is promoted well within the setting.

What needs to be improved?

- opportunities for children to practice more difficult skills such as pouring drinks.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The progress made since the last inspection has been very good. More detailed information is provided to parents about the early learning goals and the settings aims and objectives. Long term and short term planning is displayed to ensure parents are fully informed about the educational provision.

A member of staff has been appointed as the special needs co-ordinator. She has attended additional training to ensure appropriate care and support is offered.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children maintain attention, concentrate and sit quietly as they listen to a story, they lean forward across the table in their enthusiasm. They listen carefully to the reader and anticipate what will happen next. With adult support children are beginning to accept the needs of others and learn the skill of negotiation. Children behave well and are forming good relationships with their peers.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Most children are able to take turns in conversation, they listen carefully to others and talk confidently in a group and to unfamiliar adults. Children are beginning to recognise initial letters and familiar words displayed around the room. Children are developing good pencil control. The older more able children are able to write their own name and others are able to write some recognisable letters.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Lots of opportunities provided to practice and reinforce number and counting. Many children recognise numerals up to nine, some beyond. They can say the next given number up to nine and are beginning to understand the concept of simple addition and subtraction. Through practical activities children are able to use their own methods to complete tasks and solve problems.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children's use of information and communication technology is excellent. Many children can operate a simple computer programme and are able to select stories and songs on the tape recorder. Children use their designing and making skills well, they are able to use a wide range of tools and techniques and know how equipment works.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and negotiate space well as they ride and climb. They manipulate objects with increasing control including their own bodies as they copy actions to songs and rhymes. Children are involved in activities that encourage health and bodily awareness, such as recognising the change in out heart rate before and after exercise.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

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

Children are involved in many musical activities they dance, sing and play instruments. They sing from memory and can name many instruments. Children explore colour and texture and respond well to many new and familiar activities. Children use imagination in many ways, they enjoy acting out everyday experiences as they make sense of what they have seen.

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:

- provide regular opportunities for children to practice more difficult skills such as pouring their own drinks.

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.