



Office for Standards
in Education

NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 127675

DfES Number: 517622

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 08/03/2004
Inspector Name Vanessa Wood

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Teston and Watringbury Playgroup
Setting Address Teston Village Hall
Teston Lane, Teston
Maidstone
Kent
ME18 5BX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Teston and Watringbury Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Teston and Watringbury Playgroup
Address Teston Village Hall
Teston Lane, Teston
Maidstone
Kent
ME18 5BX

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 group operate from a village hall in the centre of Teston. They serve the local village and others surrounding it. They are open for five mornings a week. Integrated in to the morning sessions is a rising 5's session. The rising 5's have access to a smaller room which they use for more structured activities.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Teston and Watringbury Nursery Group provides good quality education and children are making generally good progress towards the early learning goals in all areas and very good progress in personal, social and emotional development and communication, language and literacy.

Teaching is generally good. Staff have a good understanding of the foundation stage and plan practical activities that challenge all children. Staff provide an attractive environment that encourages children to experiment and use their imagination. Staff use skilful questioning to motivate children and encourage learning. Staff develop child initiated play by providing the appropriate resources to help children achieve their aim. They are good role models for children and help children build warm, trusting relationships. Children behave very well.

Staff are constantly reviewing and developing their planning to provide an effective program of activities. Staff are aware that organisation of large group activities are sometimes too long and can result in children losing concentration.

Leadership of the group is very strong with management generally good overall and well supported by the committee. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities. They work well together and support each other within the team. Staff constantly review their practice and attend courses to up date their skills.

Partnership with parents is very good. Staff share information about the children's progress and parents are welcomed into the setting. Parents are invited to join the committee and all parents take an active part in fund raising activities.

What is being done well?

- Children's personal, social and emotional development is good. Staff make good relationships with children and encourage them to develop confidence and self esteem.
- Partnership with parents is very successful. Staff foster a good relationship with parents and all information is shared.
- Leadership of the setting is strong and staff have a clear understanding of their responsibilities.
- The setting provides a stimulating environment which helps staff promote children's learning.

What needs to be improved?

- develop the use of observations of children's progress to ensure this informs

future planning

- the planning of large group activities to ensure these are not too long and meet the needs of all children, especially more able children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The book corner now has attractive seating to encourage children to use this resource. Planning has improved and long, medium and short term plans are now in place and activities are evaluated. Staff record observations on children's progress.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are happy, confident and well motivated. They have a positive approach to learning and show good levels of concentration. Children form good relationships with adults and their peers. They share resources and ideas and recognise the needs of others. Staff encourage independence by giving responsibilities for every day tasks. Children are well behaved.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children speak confidently and enjoy relating significant events to friends and staff. Children listen attentively to stories and take delight in predictable endings. Children recognise their names and also those of other children and staff. Staff provide ample opportunity for children to write during focused and free play activities.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children's understanding of number is reinforced during practical and social activities. Children are given the opportunity to count by rote and to recognise numbers in large group activities, although this could be extended to include more calculation. Children show that they understand measure and shape and can use the correct language.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are given good opportunities to talk about and experience the outside world through organised trips and visits from local services. Conversations with staff during activities encourage children to understand about families and the community they live in. Children have good opportunities to experience technology and enjoy using the two computers.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children have access to a variety of small tools and their fine motor skills are developing well. The outside play space is not accessible every day, although physical activities in the hall are planned into the days curriculum. Children enjoy a variety of music and movement and songs.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement:	Generally Good
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Children explore colour and texture using a range of painting and collage techniques. Staff provide children with a good range of small world and role play resources, which give opportunities for children to use their imagination and express and communicate their ideas. Children are given the opportunity to respond to their senses as they dance to music and smell and taste cooking.

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

- Continue to develop and revise planning to ensure observations on children's progress is used to inform future planning.
- Ensure large group activities are planned to meet the needs of all children and extend learning for more able children.

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.