



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 119943

DfES Number: 516914

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/10/2003
Inspector Name Patricia Jane Daniels

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Bisley Village Playgroup
Setting Address Village Hall
Guildford Road, Bisley
Woking
Surrey
GU24 9EG

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Committee of Bisley Village Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Committee of Bisley Village Playgroup
Address Village Hall
Guildford Road, Bisley
Woking
Surrey
GU24 9EG

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

Bisley Village Playgroup is located in Bisley Village Hall, on the outskirts of the town. It offers sessions in the mornings and afternoons from Mondays to Fridays during term times. Morning sessions are from 09:15 to 11:45, afternoon sessions from 12:15 to 14:45.

The group is run by a committee and serves children from the local community. The committee and parents are very supportive, both with fund raising and helping at the group.

Five members of staff are always present, plus a parent helper.

The group accepts funded children and welcomes children with special needs or for whom English is a second language. On the day of inspection 25 funded three year olds and 2 funded four year olds were present.

How good is the Day Care?

Bisley Village Playgroup provides a good standard of care for children.

The majority of staff hold a relevant childcare qualification, those that do not are working towards their qualifications. Staff are supported in undertaking further training and all hold a current first aid certificate. The group is well organised by the staff, who have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They provide a welcoming environment for children and parents. A wide range of interesting toys and equipment is available, presented in an appealing manner. Most of the relevant documentation is in place.

Staff have a reasonable awareness of potential hazards and have taken steps to minimise identified risks. Most aspects of hygiene are satisfactory. The group provides a drink of milk and a biscuit at break time, parents provide an alternative if required. Staff have experience of caring for children with special needs and are aware of their responsibilities with regard to child protection.

Children have access to a wide range of stimulating activities, some of which are linked to the theme of the week. Staff take opportunities to involve themselves in the children's play and learning and have positive relationships with the children. Staff manage children's behaviour in an appropriate way and value children's good behaviour.

The group promotes a positive relationship with parents and welcomes their involvement. Parents of new children are kept informed with a daily diary. An information pack is provided and regular newsletters give an update on general issues.

What has improved since the last inspection?

No actions for improvement were raised at the last inspection.

What is being done well?

- Staff have a clear understanding of their roles and develop their skills from ongoing training. The group is organised to meet the children's needs.
- A welcoming environment is provided for children, with a wide range of interesting toys and equipment available. Children present as settled and confident and have access to toys they enjoy.
- Staff take opportunities to involve themselves with the children. They support and extend the children's play and learning experiences. The children's development is promoted in all areas.
- Staff manage children's behaviour appropriately. They value children's contributions and encourage their good behaviour. The children understand what is expected of them.
- The group values its relationship with parents and encourages information to be shared. Staff have a good understanding of the children's needs.

What needs to be improved?

- the procedure for monitoring heating, to ensure that a suitable minimum temperature is maintained
- the procedure for hand washing, to ensure good hygiene practices are in place regarding hand washing
- documentation, to make all policies and procedures more readily available to parents, to obtain written permission to take children's photographs and to ensure that the record of existing injuries is countersigned by parents.

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	Ensure that the premises are maintained at an adequate and comfortable temperature
14	Ensure that policies and procedures are readily available to parents.
14	Obtain written permission to take children's photographs and ensure that the record of existing injuries is countersigned by parents.

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The quality of nursery education offered by Bisley Village Playgroup is acceptable and of good quality with some very good aspects evident. Children make generally good progress towards the early learning goals.

Overall, the quality of teaching is very good. Staff are secure in their knowledge of the foundation stage and deliver an interesting curriculum. Children enthusiastically participate in many worthwhile activities but opportunities for them to make independent choices are limited. Resources have to be set up and cleared away daily but staff work hard to provide a very stimulating environment. The session includes a balance of adult directed activities, child initiated play, quieter activities, active play, small and large group work. Staff build good relationships with children and act as positive role models. They are interested in what children have to say and use very effective questioning techniques to encourage them to think and express their own views and opinions. Children are well supported in their learning. There are effective procedures for children with special needs or who have English as an additional language. The playgroup has recently revised its procedures for planning, evaluation, observation and assessment to ensure that individual children's needs are identified and children can be moved on in their learning.

Leadership and management of the playgroup is very good. Staff work well as a team. They are given specific roles and responsibilities, which gives everyone a sense of ownership. There is a strong commitment to the ongoing improvement of care and education for all children.

The partnership with parents is generally good. Parents are welcomed into the group and are given comprehensive information about the setting and its provision. Parents find staff approachable. Some parents would like to be more informed about their children's progress and achievements and share knowledge about their children.

What is being done well?

- Staff have a good understanding of what they want children to gain from activities. They make use of opportunities which arise during the session to reinforce children's understanding and learning. Deployment of staff is very good which ensures that children are supported effectively and are able to move from one activity to the next without having to wait.
- Children are presented with a very stimulating environment. It is exciting to look at and invites participation. Small world toys are presented in very imaginative layouts and there is effective use of labelling.
- Staff make good use of opportunities as they arise to reinforce children's understanding of number and mathematical concepts and introduce new

ideas, for example the use of ordinal numbers whilst telling stories.

- The setting actively encourages parents to be involved in their children's learning by providing suggestions for activities they might like to do at home with them. Parents are encouraged to help their children find things to bring in for the letter and number of the week or which will link in with their current topic. This is very popular and many children contribute to this part of the session. The playgroup operates a parents rota whereby parents and carers can help out during sessions. Parents and staff enjoy good relationships. They value the staff and appreciate the effort which is given to providing good quality care and education.
- The setting takes active steps to assess its own strengths and weaknesses and monitors its provision for nursery education well. It works in partnership with other agencies.
- Consumable materials are offered in generous quantities which ensures children can explore freely.

What needs to be improved?

- opportunities for children to experiment with writing through daily activities and role play;
- opportunities for children to select resources independently and explore and work independently;
- opportunities for parents to share their knowledge about their children and be more involved in the assessment process by ensuring they are well informed about children's achievements and progress.

What has improved since the last inspection?

One area for attention was identified at the previous education inspection. This related to enhancing the partnership with parents and carers by providing more detailed information on the educational curriculum. Generally good progress has been made overall. The group provides relevant information in its prospectus and welcome pack. Those areas that the children will be concentrating on each half term are displayed on the parents' noticeboard in the form of medium-term plans and details about the areas of learning, early learning goals and the stepping stones are also readily available.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident and relate to others in a positive way. They generally behave well and learn about sharing and taking turns. They choose what they wish to play with from those items available to them but there is limited opportunity for children to select resources for themselves and work independently across some areas of the curriculum. They are helped to gain a sense of community. Children show good levels of concentration and some engage in co-operative play.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

They communicate freely with their peers and adults, ask questions and express ideas. They learn letter names through planned activities. Some children show interest in writing and are able to write their names although this is not always consistently encouraged. Children show interest in books. They listen to and join in with stories, songs and rhymes with enjoyment and enthusiasm. There are few opportunities for children to experiment with writing as part of everyday activities and role-play.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children recognise number names through songs, rhymes, and other counting routines. They show confidence and interest in numbers and count using 1:1 correspondence. Children are beginning to display an understanding of the way numbers operate. They sort, match and explore shape and size. They have awareness of and use appropriate language to describe position.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

They experience activities that encourage exploration and investigation. They show curiosity and wonder for example when observing colour change as they ice biscuits. Activities are mostly adult-directed though and opportunity for children to investigate independently and select resources, tools and materials themselves is limited. They talk about and use everyday technology. Use is made of the local environment to enhance this area of the curriculum. They go on walks and visitors come to the group

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Staff plan an effective programme to support children's development of fine and gross motor skills and hand/eye co-ordination. Children move with confidence, control and spatial awareness. They crawl, climb, balance, jump and practice throwing and catching. They have opportunities to explore large play equipment independently during free play as well as through adult directed activities. They use a range of tools, materials and equipment with increasing control.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children recognise and name a range of colours. They experiment with colour mixing and begin to show awareness of what happens when colours are mixed together. They are presented with a broad range of activities which support the exploration of media and materials and which allows them to respond in different ways and use their senses although this is confined to what staff provide for them. Children enjoy imaginative play and singing. They have a repertoire of songs and rhymes.

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

- investigate ways of encouraging children to experiment with writing as part of everyday activities and in role-play;
- strengthen the programme for personal, social and emotional development, knowledge and understanding of the world and creative development by considering ways in which opportunities can be provided for children to select resources, explore and work independently;
- provide greater opportunities for parents to share their knowledge about their children and be more involved in the assessment process by ensuring they are well informed about children's achievements and progress.

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.