



Office for Standards
in Education

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 116280

DfES Number: 532939

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 17/09/2004
Inspector Name Jamila Aslam

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Sessional Day Care
Setting Name Grove Park Playgroup
Setting Address Church Room
St. Paul's Church, Grove Park Road
Chiswick
London
W4 1DA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of The Committee of Grove Park Playgroup

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Committee of Grove Park Playgroup
Address Grove Park Playgroup, Church Room
St. Paul's Church, Grove Park Road
Chiswick
London
W4 1DA

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

Grove Park Playgroup was registered 11 years ago. The playgroup is committee run and operates from Church premises, situated within walking distance of local shops, parks and close to the river in Chiswick. The areas accessible to the children are a play room on the ground floor and a further play room on the first floor, both rooms equipped with toilet area and kitchens. Children also have access to a garden on the Church grounds.

The playgroup operates from Monday to Friday term time only between the hours of 09:15 to 11:45.

There are currently 18 children on roll from two years to five years, this includes 3 funded three year olds. Children can attend a variety of sessions. The nursery supports children with special needs and are currently supporting children with English as an additional language.

All staff working within the playgroup hold a relevant childcare qualification. The playgroup also receives support from the Early Years Development Childcare Partnership in Hounslow.

How good is the Day Care?

Grove Park Playgroup provides good quality care for children.

Space is well organised both indoors and outdoors to ensure children can move around freely, and access toys and learning resources during the session. The organisation of equipment encourages children to make choices. The staff team work well together and hold weekly staff meetings to review working practices and plan activities for the week ahead. The policies and procedures are well organised, clear and kept up to date.

High priority is given to health and safety, with effective procedures in place to ensure areas used by the children are safe. Staff are vigilant when supervising

children and in particular during arrival and collection time. There is good written information promoting hygiene and staff are good role models in ensuring that children observe a high level of hygiene. Staff have a positive attitude to the inclusion of children with special needs and provide a good range of resources to meet the children's individual needs. The child protection policy and procedure complies with the required guidance however staff knowledge and understanding is limited.

The children are occupied and stimulated and staff place strong emphasis on learning through play, therefore minimal behaviour management is required as children's behaviour is very good.

Parents state they are happy with the care given to their children, and particularly commented that the staff team are kind and caring towards their children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the setting agreed to a number of actions which have now been met. These include ensuring the fridge is safe, this action is met and a new fridge has been purchased, permission from parents to administer prescribed medication will be sought at the point of parent requesting staff to administer medication, the door at the back of the building is now secure with a bolt, and children's arrival and departure times are recorded in the daily register.

Another action raised was to gain knowledge of and comply with local Area Child Protection Committee procedures, this action has been partially met, there is a clear written policy in place.

What is being done well?

- Staff plan and provide a wide range of activities which help the children make good progress in all areas of their development. There is a strong emphasis on children learning through play and there are good opportunities for children to explore, learn and investigate.
- The premises are exceptionally clean and well maintained, bright, and airy. There is sufficient space for children to move around freely both indoors and outdoors. Good use is made of the outdoor play area for children to participate in physical play.
- Staff ratios ensure that the children are fully supported. There is a strong emphasis on safety and staff oversee the main entrance at arrival and collection time. There are good safety procedures in place with regards to fire evacuation and new staff, visitors and parents are made aware of this procedure on entry to the playgroup.

What needs to be improved?

- the staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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
13	Develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues

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

How effective is the nursery education?

The education programme offered at Grove Park Playgroup is generally good. Children are confident and persist at a broad range of activities in the rich environment. They make generally good progress in the six key areas of learning, creative development and personal, social and emotional are particularly good.

The quality of teaching is generally good. Staff have a good overview of the Foundation Stage and detailed knowledge of the learning areas. Positive relationships based on respect foster good behaviour, a caring environment and motivation to participate and learn. Adults give plenty of attention and support to children and track their progress well.

Planning is generally good and builds on observations and assessments of what children can do. Resources are well organised to support children's independence and autonomy in most learning areas. A wide range of teaching aids and questioning techniques is used successfully to extend most children's thinking and learning.

Good leadership and management, clear communication systems and established responsibilities result in a balanced staff team who work well together. Adults have a clear commitment to providing good quality education and improved quality of teaching through professional development and regular access to training. The provision continues to improve by implementing changes and evaluating the effectiveness of the education programme.

Partnership with parents is very good, they are well informed about the setting and curriculum. Warm relationships and good ongoing communication between staff and parents leads to a positive learning experience for children and ensures their individual needs are planned for. Parents speak very highly about the setting and the activities.

What is being done well?

- There is a strong commitment to ongoing improvement of the quality of care and education of the children, supported by a clear vision and effective systems to manage the setting. Staff have clear responsibilities to ensure the smooth day to day running as well as good access to training to promote continued improvement to the education programme and the quality of teaching.
- Staff's knowledge enables them to plan and provide a rich and stimulating environment and a varied range of activities to promote learning through play. Staff use their imagination to adapt activities to meet children's individual needs. A good range of teaching and questioning techniques are used to successfully extend children's language and thinking.

- Good relationships and communication are evident at all levels. Adults offer sufficient attention and support to children, act as positive role models and treat children with respect. This is reflected in good behaviour, good self esteem and confidence which enables children to participate in a wide range of activities and experiences.
- Children progress well in all areas, particularly in creative development, physical development and personal, social and emotional development. Children have excellent opportunities to make decisions and choices about their play and access resources independently. This enables children to be spontaneous, creative, imaginative and to set their own challenges. Staff are attentive to children, they praise children's efforts and achievements frequently, which fosters good self esteem and confidence.
- The staff team work very well in partnership with parents, sharing information about children's progress. Parents speak very highly about the setting, the range of activities children can access and how much children enjoy attending.

What needs to be improved?

- the opportunities for children to explore and investigate how things work.
- the opportunities for children to explore calculation through practical activities and record their findings
- the opportunities for children to independently choose and handle books in the book corner.

What has improved since the last inspection?

This is the settings first inspection.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are enthusiastic, self-assured and motivated learners. Relationships between staff and children are warm and caring, children model the respect they are shown by the staff as they develop relationships with their peers. Good behaviour is valued, staff are consistent in their approach and children are frequently praised. Children have excellent opportunities to make decisions, access resources independently and be spontaneous in their play.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

Children listen attentively and communicate confidently. Adults make good use of impromptu situations to extend children's vocabulary and develop their linguistic skills. Good use of multi lingual labelling and easy access to a wide range of resources stimulates interest in early reading and writing. Children spend time exploring the links between sounds and letters. Although children know that print carries meaning, opportunities to choose and handle books independently are limited.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

There are regular opportunities to explore a range of mathematical concepts. Colour, shape, quantity and position are explored through everyday situations and children use associated mathematical language well. Although children understand number and can count accurately to ten and beyond, they have fewer opportunities to explore calculation through practical activities or record their mathematical findings.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Generally Good

Children learn about the world as they explore equipment from different cultural beliefs and celebrate various festivals. There are excellent opportunities to select resources for planning, designing and making their own inventions. They use imagination as they create art work and build complex small world models. Children explore natural materials learning about the natural world through planned activities, but have too few opportunities to explore everyday technology and how things work.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children handle simple tools, construction and malleable materials well developing good dexterity and manipulation skills. They demonstrate good spatial awareness and co-ordination as they move confidently inside and outside. When using wheeled toys children are able to steer confidently, negotiate obstacles and stop under control. Children enjoy good spontaneous access to indoor and outdoor play. They explore their own ideas as they develop a wide range of skills.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

There are many opportunities to explore colour, shape, form, texture and space through art activities. Children are strongly encouraged to explore their own ideas and express their creativity in many ways. Children's work is displayed and they are encouraged to develop pride in their creations, which fosters good self esteem and confidence. Children show imagination when acting out simple storylines and role play together. They enjoy regular music sessions and participate in singing.

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 improving the following:
- increase opportunities for children to explore and investigate how things work
- increase the frequency of opportunities for children to calculate through practical activities and record mathematical findings
- increase access to the book corner to give children opportunities to choose and handle books independently .

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.