



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 253793

DfES Number: 581287

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 28/04/2004  
Inspector Name Patricia Webb

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Carousel Day Nursery  
Setting Address 7-11 Hayes Lane  
Lye  
Stourbridge  
West Midlands  
DY9 8QJ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Mrs J A Fletcher & Mrs M F Hughes

### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Mrs J A Fletcher & Mrs M F Hughes  
Address Carousel Day Nursery  
7-11 Hayes Lane  
Stourbridge  
West Midlands  
DY9 8QJ

## 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

Carousel Day Nursery has been registered since 1994. It operates from a single storey building in the Lye area of Dudley. There is off-road parking to the front of the premises and a fully enclosed play area to the rear. The nursery serves a wide catchment area. Care is provided from 3 main bases. The baby suite is for children aged 0-2 years, with a Tweenies room for children aged 2-3 years and a preschool base for children aged 3-5 years.

There are currently 73 children on the roll. This includes 12 funded 4-year-olds and 18 funded 3-year-olds. The setting supports children with special needs.

The nursery opens Monday to Friday, 07.30 to 18.00, all year round.

There are 17 staff working directly with the children, more than three-quarters of whom hold a relevant child care qualification. The setting also uses the services of outside specialist teachers for French, music and dance. The nursery receives support and guidance from the teacher mentor service and the Special Needs service of the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

Carousel Day Nursery provides good quality care for children.

The management and the staff are dedicated and committed to providing a warm, welcoming environment where children are settled, secure and happy to arrive each day. The children's work is displayed to celebrate their achievements and offer a child- focused setting. An excellent range of resources supports the children's learning and play in all areas of development. All the necessary documentation is maintained confidentially.

Staff carry out risk assessments to ensure children safety and security, however a minor hazard was noted. They encourage children's awareness of good hygiene practice through familiar nursery routines. At times, the routine for distributing lunch

through the setting can be a little disruptive as staff go between the kitchen and the rooms. There is a strong commitment to equal opportunities in the nursery. Staff are well informed about individual children's needs and preferences enabling them to establish effective care routines. The setting works with other agencies to ensure consistency when supporting children with special needs. Effective inductions ensure that staff are fully aware of the child protection procedures and conversant with the processes involved.

Children throughout the setting benefit from flexible routines that take account of children's needs. Activities are planned to provide interest and challenge in order to encourage progress in all areas of development. Behaviour is very good as staff ensure that children are engaged in a wide range of purposeful activities reducing the risk of children becoming bored or disinterested.

Parents are acknowledged as the primary carers in their children's lives. Staff provide a friendly and professional approach to working effectively in partnership in order to care for the children in accordance with parents wishes. Details regarding individual needs are recorded accurately and reviewed on a regular basis.

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

Not applicable, as there were no actions raised at the last inspection.

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

- The detailed policies and procedures of the nursery provide a clear guide to parents and staff of the well organised routines and responsibilities.
- The broad range of resources available enables children to make very good progress in all areas of their development. Storage is very effective with a high level of self selection to encourage children's independence and spontaneity.
- A wide range of inspiring activities excite and enthral the children such as playing outside in the snow and examining small animals and mini beasts.
- Children with special needs are well supported by staff who work closely in partnership with parents to ensure a high level of interaction and safety for the children.
- Staff employ different strategies to manage children's behaviour effectively. Praises, cuddles and rewards are used to develop children's self esteem and ensure that they feel good about themselves.

#### **An aspect of outstanding practice:**

Diligent and committed staff know the children's individual needs and characters very well. They use information from parents very effectively to plan a wide variety of activities designed to encourage each child to reach their full potential. They take pride in the roles they play within each child's progress, particularly for children with additional needs.

**What needs to be improved?**

- methods for securing some displays
- routine for the distribution of the midday meal.

**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
6	Ensure that all potential hazards are effectively addressed.
8	Review the procedures for the serving of the midday meal to develop a more settled routine for the children.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Carousel Day Nursery provides very good quality education and children make very good progress towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is very good and staff have a secure knowledge of the foundation stage. This assists children to make progress in all six areas of learning. They plan a good programme of activities and provide a wide range of stimulating practical activities for children. Staff do not always fully utilise daily routines and informal opportunities to expand children's use of mathematical concepts. Staff use positive strategies and help children understand behaviour expectations.

Assessments of the children's learning are systematic and clearly link to the stepping stones and early learning goals. Staff support children well with identified special needs and help them make good progress. Currently there are no children who speak English as an additional language attending the setting, although there are effective systems in place to provide support.

Leadership and management is very good. The team work well together and are committed to extending the quality of care and education through ongoing professional development. The appraisal system encourages staff's professional development and ensures they are up-to-date with current childcare initiatives.

The partnership with parents is very good. Parents are well informed about the nursery ethos, curriculum and their child's progress. Parents are welcome to attend sessions with their children.

### What is being done well?

- There are clear routines and staff support the children well which helps make them feel secure and confident. Children are sociable and have caring relationships with each other and the staff.
- Staff have high expectations of behaviour. They are positive and help children understand what is expected of them. Staff are consistent in their approach and children respond well to behaviour boundaries.
- Staff provide many opportunities for children to investigate and explore objects, materials and the natural world. Children learn about their senses through practical meaningful activities which they enjoy. Staff make good use of the computer and offer a range of effective programmes to extend the children's learning.
- Staff provide regular opportunities for children to use a wide range of materials to express and communicate their ideas. Different techniques are used in producing their work such as free painting and access to imaginative play. Children learn about colour and texture through a range of malleable

materials.

- The setting provides very good quality information about the provision and parents are well informed about their child's achievements and progress. Parents are encouraged to become involved in their child's learning through their support in contributing to the current theme.

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

- the opportunities for children to extend their use of mathematical concepts and language throughout daily routines.

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

The group has made very good progress by introducing a system where all the children are asked to choose the activities they want to play with as part of the child initiated learning. Children choose activities from picture cards.

The policy on special education needs has been developed to include the code of practice and the updated changes to the disability act.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children show a sense of belonging and adapt well to changes throughout the day. Children are actively involved and are motivated to learn. They demonstrate an independence in selecting activities. They show concern for others and express their feelings appropriately with an awareness of behaviour boundaries. Children understand the need to take turns and can play independently.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children interact and talk in groups, they listen and respond with enjoyment to stories. Children are extending their vocabulary and explore the sounds of words and letters through saying their names and familiar words. Children recognise their first name, surname, some words on the display charts and some labels. Children are able to write their names and use writing for a range of purposes during play.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children show an interest in numbers and can count during activities and through the use of number rhymes. There is some use of counting during daily routines and informal activities. Children are able to compare shape and size through a variety of practical activities. Children are beginning to sequence and recreate simple patterns.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children investigate and explore living things and natural objects to find out more about them. They observe changes in the environment and describe and explore changes in the weather. Children show a real interest in information technology and most use the computer with confidence. They recall past and present events and show an interest in other cultures and beliefs.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are developing spatial awareness, they move confidently and safely. They use large and small equipment with increased skill and confidence, whilst learning to co-ordinate their body to create intended shape through music and movement. They have an understanding of personal hygiene and learn about the importance of healthy eating and the effects of exercise on their body.

**CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement:	Very Good
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Children easily differentiate between colours and confidently explore texture and shape. They respond in a variety of ways to what they see, hear and touch and communicate their own ideas through a good range of art materials. Children use their imagination during role play and use expression through dance and movement. Children show an interest in music and enjoy using percussion instruments. They independently build and construct with a range of material to create models.

**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:*

- There are no key issues to address, however consideration should be given to:
- provide increased opportunities for children to extend their use of mathematics and mathematical language throughout daily routines.

*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.*