



**Office for Standards
in Education**

COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY103947

DfES Number:

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	28/01/2004
Inspector Name	Pauline Margaret Bailey

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	Playaway Nursery
Setting Address	1 Maddocks Slade Burnham-on-Sea Somerset TA8 2AN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Mrs Julia Clare Gaskell
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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

Playaway Nursery is situated in a large detached house on a corner site in Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset. The ground floor area of the house provides living accommodation for the owner and her family. Upstairs areas to used for day care consist of two main play rooms, a baby room, sleep room and toilet/changing facilities. Children have use of the rear garden and a soft play area. The nursery is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 18.00pm.

There are currently 55 children on the register, 18 of them are funded three year olds and two funded four year olds. One child attending has special educational needs. There are two children with English as an additional language.

The nursery has five fulltime members of staff plus the owner/manager. All staff hold appropriate qualifications and experience and regularly undertake additional training. The setting receives advice and support from the local EYDCP.

The owner's family dog lives on the premises and the setting has a non smoking policy.

How good is the Day Care?

Playaway Nursery provides good care for children. The manager and staff have relevant qualifications and experience and the operational plan is detailed and effective. Premises are clean, well maintained and in excellent decorative order. A good balance of daily activities is provided for all ages. The nursery is well resourced with toys and equipment appropriate for the ages of children attending. All required records policies and procedures are in place and stored securely in the office.

Health and safety policies and procedures are in place to cover all aspects of the provision. Staff are active in promoting good health and hygiene, with clear routines for hand washing, nappy changing and serving food. Children enjoy a home cooked meal at lunchtime and buffet style tea. Drinking water is available at all times and any individual dietary requirements are met. Staff know children well and work

closely with parents so that appropriate care is provided. The nursery is very pro-active in introducing children to the wider world and gives good support to families with other home languages. The nursery has secure arrangements in place to accommodate children with special needs, although access could be a problem as play rooms are situated on the upper floor of the house. Clear procedures are in place to address any child protection issues.

Good provision is made for babies and older children are encouraged to be independent and select activities for themselves as they move freely between the two play rooms.

Staff have a good understanding of the nursery behaviour management policy and are calm and positive in their approach, using appropriate strategies when required.

The nursery has excellent relationships with parents. They are provided with very good initial information and kept informed of children's progress through daily information sheets and notebooks.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The previous inspection required the nursery to develop a risk assessment on the run around room. This has now been completed and included in the daily checks completed on the premises.

What is being done well?

- The operational plan is very detailed. The setting has high staff child ratios with all staff clear about their roles and responsibilities. All staff hold appropriate qualifications and attend ongoing internal and external training.
- Safety and supervision is a priority at all times, particularly when children use the stairs to go to the rear garden or visit the run about room.
- Health and safety policies and procedures are in place to cover all aspects of the provision. Equipment is in place to monitor the premises, with efficient arrival and departure procedures. Daily safety checks are completed on all areas of the building and regular staff meetings are held to review risk assessments.
- The nursery has very good relationships with parents. They are provided with very good initial information and the open door policy ensures they can meet with the manager and key worker at any time. The nursery give very good support to parents with varied cultural backgrounds. Staff have learned some basic phrases in order to meet and greet parents and provide many notices in English and other languages.

What needs to be improved?

- the display of information on procedures for nappy changing

Outcome of the inspection
Good

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION
<i>All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.</i>
<i>As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.</i>

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
7	ensure procedures for nappy changing are clearly displayed in the toilet area to inform all staff

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

How effective is the nursery education?

Playaway Nursery is providing generally good provision and children are making effective progress towards the Early Learning Goals. The majority of funded children are three years old.

Teaching is generally good. Staff are deployed effectively throughout the session to cover all activities. They display a good awareness of the Early Learning goals, and make best use of their knowledge, particularly in spontaneous activities. During planned activities they do not always make use of support material provided, or extend activities to challenge children, resulting in some learning opportunities not being fully utilised.

Planning is generally good but not used to its full potential. The nursery has developed a curriculum which includes all areas of learning and plans are in place for each session, including ways in which activities can be extended or additional support provided.

The manager provides very good leadership. She is well qualified and experienced and provides good support for staff, including regular supervision and appraisal sessions. Provision is monitored regularly and staff encouraged to attend training.

Partnership with parents and carers is very good. They are provided with good initial information about the setting and informed about the daily programme and themes and activities. There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning. The nursery give very good support to parents with varied cultural backgrounds.

What is being done well?

- Children are enthusiastic and keen to be involved in new activities. They are confident and capable and take responsibility for their own needs, displaying good levels of independence in dressing and hygiene.
- Children are offered many opportunities to explore and investigate. They are learning about the natural world through a variety of activities. They are learning about the immediate world and becoming familiar with other cultures and lifestyles.
- All children experience a wide range of activities which help to develop gross and fine motor skills. They enthusiastically join in musical and movement sessions which are ably led by equally enthusiastic members of staff.

What needs to be improved?

- children's access to equipment and resources to extend their writing skills and make them more aware of the written word
- planned occasions within the daily programme for children to investigate mathematical concepts and develop ways of solving practical problems
- the ways in which children's learning is extended at all sessions, particularly in the areas of literacy and mathematics

What has improved since the last inspection?

No copy of the previous inspection report was available. Ownership has recently changed.

SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are enthusiastic and keen to be involved in new activities. They are confident and capable and take responsibility for their own needs, displaying good levels of independence in dressing and hygiene. Children have very good relationships with adults and show care and concern for each other. Staff recognise, praise and reward occasions when children have shown consideration for others.

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Generally Good

All children are confident speakers and regularly contribute to discussions. The setting provides a very literate environment. Children thoroughly enjoy story time and make very good use of the book corner. Most children can recognise their written names and some display good pre-writing skills. Opportunities for them to practice writing are provided every day, but few children access the facility during the session and staff do not actively encourage them to do so.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Generally Good

Children are confident in their knowledge of number as they count, sing songs and act out rhymes. They are learning about shape and measure through practical activities and use language to compare shape, position and size. Children are able to see written numbers in all areas of the setting but they are not referred to by staff. There are few occasions within the daily programme for children to investigate mathematical concepts and develop ways of solving practical problems.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children are offered many opportunities to explore and investigate. They are learning about the natural world through activities such as monitoring the birds in the garden and planting and growing vegetables. Awareness of the wider world is supported by the sponsorship of a child overseas and the more immediate world is introduced through themes and related activities. Skills are being developed in cutting, joining and model making and children are becoming familiar with technology.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

All children experience a wide range of activities which help to develop gross and fine motor skills. They enthusiastically join in musical and movement sessions which are ably led by equally enthusiastic members of staff. All children are developing a good sense of space and self and an awareness of their own physical needs. They are competent in the use of tools and enjoy construction equipment and malleable materials.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT	
Judgement:	Generally Good
There are many opportunities for children to use their senses and explore creativity through cooking, art and craft work, but they do not make full use of tools provided with malleable materials. Children use their imagination well when involved in role play. A variety of interesting play situations is provided with appropriate resources and dressing up clothes. Children thoroughly enjoy music sessions with instruments and are able to follow a rhythm and match movements to music.	

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;
- Extend children's access to equipment and resources to extend their writing skills and make them more aware of the written word.
- Introduce planned occasions within the daily programme for children to investigate mathematical concepts and develop ways of solving practical problems.
- Identify ways in which children's learning is extended at all sessions, particularly in the areas of literacy and mathematics.

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.