



Office for Standards  
in Education

## COMBINED INSPECTION REPORT

URN 224662

DfES Number: 530367

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 02/12/2003  
Inspector Name Valerie Thomas

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name ROUNDABOUT NURSERY  
Setting Address 130 ETRURIA VALE ROAD  
ETRURIA  
STOKE ON TRENT  
STAFFORDSHIRE

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Gillian Clarke

## 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

Roundabout Day Nursery opened in 1988. It operates from five rooms within a two storey converted building in Etruria, close to the town of Hanley. There is an enclosed outside area available for play. The nursery serves the local and surrounding areas.

There are currently 48 children from 0 to 8 years on roll. This includes 16 funded 3-year-olds and 1 funded 4-year-old. Children attend a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 07:30 until 18:00. Ten full time and three part time staff work with the children, including the manager. Three quarters of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. One member of staff is currently working towards a recognised early years qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

Roundabout Day Nursery provides good care for children.

The nursery has good procedures in place to ensure staff have a consistent approach to their work. Regular staff meetings are held and annual appraisals are completed. Staff are experienced and work well together. There are well documented policies and procedures in place which help the clear and organised operation of the setting. Most documentation is recorded accurately.

Staff place high priority on ensuring children's safety with detailed policies giving clear guidelines to staff. Staff consistently carry out the procedures and take all reasonable steps to ensure the physical environment is safe. Staff implement good health and hygiene procedures which help reduce the spread of infection. The nursery are working towards a healthy eating award and have implemented positive

changes to the children's diet.

Staff plan a varied range of interesting and exciting activities for children. There is a good range of toys and equipment to help children progress in all areas. All staff have very caring attitudes with the children and meet their individual needs well. Most children behave well and respond positively to staff.

There is a good partnership with parents and carers. Parents are fully informed of how the setting operates through newsletters, policies, displays of activity plans and discussion. There is a good exchange of information between parents and the key worker and confidentiality is maintained for most of the time.

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

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

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

- The management structure ensures continual improvement through a strong commitment to staff development. The level of qualifications held is good, all staff have first aid and most have completed child protection training. This helps staff to provide good quality care for children.
- There is a broad range of interesting and challenging activities which enable children to progress in all areas. Staff encourage all children to play, they spend lots of time talking and playing with them. Children are happy and enjoy their day.
- An effective system for health and safety is adopted within the nursery. Regular risk assessments are completed and high priority is given to the condition and safety of the equipment with annual testing of equipment and daily checks of the room. This ensures children can play safely.
- There are good hygiene routines in place, which help children to understand when and why they need to wash their hands. Policies are displayed so that staff are fully informed.
- The implementation of the key worker system ensures that staff meet children's differing needs well. They discuss and obtain individual routines from parents. This helps children settle quickly and reassures parents.
- There are positive relationships with parents and carers. Parent information boards are in each room with policies displayed and these are discussed at initial visits. There is a very good exchange of information on children's progress and general well being. Children are settled and parents know how their child is progressing and where they may need help.

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

- the recording of attendance for relief staff

- the medication records, to ensure that they include the signature of parents to acknowledge the entry at all times
- the storage of records and the recording of existing injuries, to ensure confidentiality at all times.

### 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
2	Ensure recording of attendance of relief staff is accurate.
7	Ensure all records of medication recorded include parent's signature to acknowledge the entry.
14	Ensure all records are confidentially maintained including the recording of existing injuries.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

Roundabout Day Nursery offers high quality provision overall which helps children to make very good progress towards the early learning goals, in all areas of learning.

Teaching is very good in all areas. Staff have a good knowledge of the foundation stage. They plan an interesting and exciting range of practical activities which helps children to learn. Staff manage children's behaviour well and have high expectations and set clear boundaries. Activities are well managed and staff constantly encourage children to take part. They have positive relationships with children. They ask questions to make the children think and encourage them to demonstrate what they understand. There is a good range of equipment to support children's learning in all areas.

Although there are currently no children with special educational needs attending the setting, there is an effective system in place to provide good support. The key strengths in personal, social and emotional development and communication skills are due to the skilful interactions of the staff in engaging children in conversations and fostering their self esteem. The challenges set for children are good. Staff assess children's progress, however the system in use does not demonstrate the progress children are making towards the early learning goals.

Leadership and management is very good. The nursery benefits from a strong management structure and a committed staff group. They work well together and constantly evaluate their practice through appraisals, monitoring and staff meetings. Good opportunities are provided for staff development.

The partnership with parents is very good and contributes towards children's progress towards the early learning goals. Parents are well informed about the nursery ethos and curriculum. Children's progress in general is shared with parents and good opportunities are provided for parents to view their child's assessment records and discuss issues with the key worker.

### What is being done well?

- The children are confident, interested and able to work on their own and with each other. They have very good relationships with the staff and their peers.
- The development of children's language is very good. Children speak clearly and fluently as a result of the staff's consistent interest and engagement in their play. They confidently share their experiences with each other and are able to express how they are feeling.
- The programme for mathematics helps children to develop their understanding of numbers well. They count confidently up to 10 and recognise numbers in the environment. They demonstrate well that they

understand size and shape through everyday activities.

- There are very good opportunities for children to develop their understanding of the world in which they live. They visit the local park and library regularly and have been to look at the barges on the canal. They learn about the cultures and beliefs of others through celebration of festivals and a varied range of resources.
- There is a well planned stimulating environment where children learn through a wide range of practical activities. Staff set good challenges for children, which develop children's thinking and imaginative skills.
- Behaviour is managed well. Staff have high expectations and set clear boundaries for children. They encourage children to share, take turns and be kind to each other. Most children behave well.

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

- the assessment system so that it identifies children's progress towards the early learning goals
- increased opportunities for children to make marks to communicate.

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

The nursery has made very good progress since the last inspection. Staff provide increased opportunities for children to learn rhyming words through regular stories and poems. Children listen to the stories well and are able to say the relevant rhyming words. Staff encourage children to listen and name the initial sounds in words during story and news times. Most children recognise many of the letters of the alphabet and are able to say what their name begins with. The more able children are beginning to write the letters of their name correctly.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident, interested and involved in their play, which underpins their learning in many areas. They show good levels of concentration. Children have high levels of self esteem and are proud when they are chosen as helpers for the day. They co-operate well with their peers when playing games, setting toys out and tidying away. Children confidently express their needs and manage their self care well.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

Children are confident and fluent speakers and engage easily in conversations with each other and adults. Most children recognise their name and are able to recognise and name letters confidently at story time. The more able children are beginning to write their name when labelling their pictures and practise their writing skills with use of stencils. They do not always make marks to communicate in the role-play area. Children handle books well and are able to tell the story from the pictures.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Most children count and recognise numbers up to 10 confidently. They regularly practise this during everyday activities. Children develop their problem solving skills well when playing number games and singing favourite songs. They learn about patterns and symmetry when making butterfly pictures and threading shapes. Children learn about shape and size during practical activities, they confidently name and find a wide range of shapes painted on the playground outside.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Children learn about the world in which they live and the features of living things. They know that milk comes from cows and have touched a snake to see how it feels. They visit the park to see how the flowers grow. Children learn about change when making milk shakes and baking shortbread biscuits. They learn that babies grow inside the body and have looked at a scan picture of a baby. Children demonstrate well that they know the days of the week and some know the months in the year.

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children move confidently and safely. They run and jump well and are able to stop and start safely. They can negotiate an appropriate pathway and are aware of their own space when involved in action songs. Children use one handed tools well. They demonstrate good skills when throwing, catching and kicking a ball. Children are developing an increasing understanding of their bodies and the importance of staying healthy. They know that fruit is good for you and that germs make you poorly.

### **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children have good opportunities to explore colour and texture through a varied range of media such as collage, paint and spaghetti. Children name a wide range of colours confidently and are beginning to learn about different shades. They express their ideas freely through a varied range of role play, singing, music and movement and when taking on the role of the teacher showing others what to do. They express their feelings through discussion and have a cuddle bear if they are sad or upset.

**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 significant weaknesses to report, but consideration should be given to improving the following;
- develop the assessment system to demonstrate the progress children are making towards the early learning goals.

*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.*