



Office for Standards  
in Education

## NURSERY INSPECTION REPORT

URN 146060

DfES Number: 511403

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/10/2004  
Inspector Name Doreen Forsyth

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care  
Setting Name Cheverell Old School Nursery  
Setting Address The Old School  
High Street, Great Cheverell  
Devizes  
Wiltshire  
SN10 5XZ

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Rhona Welham

## ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public 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

Cheverell Old School Nursery opened in 1991. It operates from the former village school premises in the High Street of the village of Great Cheverell, near Devizes in Wiltshire. The nursery serves the surrounding villages and rural areas.

There are currently 60 children on roll, this includes 32 funded 3-year-olds and 11 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. At present the nursery supports children with special needs.

The nursery opens five days a week during school term times. Children can attend from 08.30 until 15.15 each day.

Seven full or part-time members of staff work with the children. They all have relevant early years qualifications. The setting has access to support from the local Early Years Partnership.

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

### How effective is the nursery education?

At Cheverell Old School Nursery the provision is acceptable and of high quality, children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals.

Teaching is very good. The nursery staff are skilful, well qualified and very experienced. They provide well planned and interesting activities that help both three and four-year-olds move along the stepping stones of the foundation stage of learning very well. Staff ensure that the activities available offer children suitable challenge. The planning used is effective and ensures all areas of learning are sufficiently promoted. Staff observe, record and assess children's progress very well, these observations are used to ensure that all children's progress is monitored and any individual needs met. Staff encourage children to behave well using different strategies, including a great deal of praise and encouragement. The nursery offers an environment that is welcoming, stimulating and which encourages children's learning and development.

The leadership and management of the nursery is very good. There is a strong, efficient and effective management team. Although already well qualified, the staff continue to attend training and develop their skills. The setting has very effectively used an outside evaluation scheme to monitor and evaluate the provision offered, and have put an action plan in place to deal with the issues identified.

The partnership with parents is very good. Parents are kept well informed about their children's progress and achievements through keyworker meetings, parents evenings and by regular discussion with staff. They have good opportunities to share what they know about their children and be involved with their children's learning. Parents share their skills with the nursery and contribute to the different topics and themes. Parents have good-quality information about the nursery, including a suitable prospectus, an informative notice board and newsletters.

### What is being done well?

- The staff are very skilled at presenting worthwhile activities that promote all areas of the curriculum in an interesting and enjoyable way.
- Children's personal, social, and emotional development is fostered very well. Children behave very well. They are encouraged to be independent in the daily routines. They help organise the daily snacks, and are learning to dress and undress themselves for physical activities.
- The staff work hard to provide an environment that is welcoming and stimulating. The nursery is very well resourced and has a large attractive garden for outside play. Inside there are eye-catching displays, photographs of the children's activities and examples of their work.

- Children have many good opportunities to use their imaginations through dance, movement, drama and music.
- Children are encouraged very well to attempt writing for different purposes, for example they made their own 'bug reference books'.

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

- children's opportunities to select their own resources and activities, to encourage them to learn to be independent learners
- children's freedom to use art and craft materials to express their own individual creativity and ideas.

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

The nursery has made very good progress in response to the two points for consideration made at the last inspection, and formulated a suitable action plan to explore these points. The first was to provide opportunities for children to record or tally as they act as milk monitors. The setting made a record book of different ways children record and remember numbers as milk monitors. This on-going daily activity provides four-year-olds with good opportunities to develop mathematical ideas and solve problems.

The second was use the computer to provide another way to extend the children's creative writing experience and record or publish their work. The setting encourages children to use the computer as a tool in their learning. The staff enable children to write creatively using the computer when it is appropriate and have a record book of examples of children's creative writing completed on the computer.

## SUMMARY OF JUDGEMENTS

### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children are interested in what is happening at nursery. They concentrate and are ready to learn. They are very confident and form good relationships with others. They work together, for example, when tidying up, or hunting for bugs. Children are able to share, take turns and co-operate with each other. They are very well behaved and understand right from wrong. They have very good opportunities to be independent, but do not have as many opportunities to chose their own resources and activities.

### COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Judgement: Very Good

The children talk and interact well with each other, they are very good at expressing their thoughts and ideas though speech. They enjoy stories and rhymes and learn the weekly rhyme very well. They can predict words in rhymes and retell stories. They are learning to link sounds to letters appropriately. Most children can read their own names, many can write their names and other words. They write for different purposes, for example, the four year olds record who is the daily milk monitor.

### MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

Judgement: Very Good

Children constantly use numbers in the daily activities. They can count and recognise numerals. They have many opportunities to calculate and solve simple problems, for example they enjoyed finding the right size box to house different bugs and the right number of candles for a pretend birthday cake. They have access to a wide range of different resources and take part in well-planned activities to help learn about size, shape, position and quantity, and to recreate different patterns.

### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Judgement: Very Good

Through the interesting topics and themes such as 'minibeasts' children have very good opportunities to explore and investigate different objects, living things and the natural world. They learn to design and construct for a purpose using a range of different materials and techniques. Children are learning about their own lives and their environment, they have visitors, such as the local librarian to the setting. They enjoy using information technology to support their learning.

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

The nursery has large well resourced gardens and play areas where children can run, climb and balance most days. They take part in music and movement activities that help them to learn a sense of space. The staff help children to learn about the importance of staying healthy. Children use a wide range of equipment, malleable materials and tools. They used a food grater skilfully when making bugs from vegetables. They use scissors and computer mouse with confidence and control.

### **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

Judgement: Very Good

Children listen to music during the day and have opportunities to freely explore the musical instruments. They are able to dance and move imaginatively and have good opportunities to express their ideas in dance, movement and drama. They use many different materials and media to explore colour, form and texture, but they are slightly limited in how they can use these materials to express their own individual ideas.

**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 improve the following.
- consider ways of providing children with more opportunities to select their own resources and activities
- extend children's opportunities to use their own ideas and imaginations when using art and craft materials.

*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.*