



Little Folks Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY288166
Inspection date	14 September 2005
Inspector	Sharon Waterfall
Setting Address	St. Barnabas C of E Primary School, Spring Lane, Birmingham, West Midlands, B24 9BY
Telephone number	0121 464 5813
E-mail	
Registered person	Little Folks Day Nursery Ltd 4115041
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Little Folks Day Nursery Out of School registered with Ofsted in 2004. The group is an extension of Little Folks Day Nursery Ltd but operates from a different site address, which is a mobile class room within the grounds of St Barnabas Church of England Primary School, Erdington. The group serves children attending the school only.

There are currently 42 children from 3 to 8 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The out of school group opens 5 days a week term time only. Sessions are from 07:45 until 09:00 and from 14:45 until 17:45. The children attend for a

variety of sessions.

There are seven staff working with the children. Over two thirds of the staff hold early years qualifications to level 3. The group is supported by the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children are well nourished and have sufficient quantities of food and drink for their needs. They are encouraged to make choices for themselves and their individual preferences are adhered to on a daily basis. They learn about healthy foods through topics and staff discussions. New and interesting foods are brought into the meals through taste testing and themes. The children are thoroughly involved in the snack time and help to set tables, give out cups and prepare parts of their own meals. They sit well at the table and have excellent table manners, with older children reminding the younger ones about what is required.

Children's health is supported as many positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection. All children wash their hands before eating and are independent in their self care needs. Policies and procedures are extremely well implemented by the staff. Children's welfare is a priority and all staff are trained in first aid and are made aware of particular health needs that the children have.

Children enjoy physical exercise and learn about the importance of activity in a healthy lifestyle as they join in free play and organised activities in the outdoor area. Activities such as football and ball skills enable them to develop their kicking, throwing and catching abilities. On the adventure playground they balance, climb, jump, twist and hang as they attempt to cross the activities. Fine motor skills are developed through the many complex craft activities, such as collage with small materials.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are confident in accessing all of the available play space. They move around freely accessing all resources independently in the child orientated environment. The premises are well organised to support either active or quiet activities as required by the children. The atmosphere is one of fun and enjoyment and children make positive relationships with the staff and their peers.

Although children's safety is a priority and staff complete not only daily safety checks but in-depth risk assessments regularly, there is an issue with the overall security. The immediate security of the premises is good and children are secure within the fenced area. Staff supervise children directly within the school grounds and although the main gate is not easily accessible it is not closed and this has an impact on the security of the whole site. The children learn about keeping themselves safe as they

actively participate in emergency drills and are reminded of safety rules and boundaries.

Policies and procedures are effective in ensuring that children's welfare is paramount. They are well protected from abuse and neglect as staff have a secure knowledge of child protection issues. The person responsible for child protection has a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if there are concerns about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

The children have great fun at the club and the emphasis is on them enjoying themselves. They are occupied at all times with activities that they choose to do and staff support them very well. Some activities are planned to ensure a variety and to maintain the children's interest. Within this play the children have new experiences and progress in their development and ideas. The current theme of looking at countries around the world helps with their geography; they have looked at traditional dress, tasted new foods and found out about other people's ideas.

They explore changes to foods as they melt chocolate for cake decoration, cook popcorn and make ice cream. An obvious advantage to these science activities is how delicious they are when completed and the children then use their sense of taste to evaluate their work! Bug hunts and leaf rubbings help the children to observe nature and changes within the seasons. Their social skills are developed as they work together to collect and find these items. Through drama, dance and singing the children express themselves and use their imaginations. The younger children are enthusiastic about dressing up and make up scenarios and games to fit their new identities.

The children are also able to express themselves through the arts and craft activities. They are making self portraits and will add speech bubbles saying what they like about being at the club. Around the walls are many examples of children's creative work. The older children have enjoyed tie-dyeing tee shirts, apple bobbing and feet printing.

The atmosphere is relaxed but busy, the children choose to play inside or outside and to be active or take part in quieter activities. They form excellent relationships with the staff and each other. Occasionally outings within the local area take place and the children thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon bowling and a meal out.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children's individuality is valued and respected by caring staff that ensure that all activities and resources provided meet the needs of the children attending. The children independently access resources and decide what they want to do. Their self-esteem and confidence are developed as they initiate games and make choices

and decisions for themselves. They have put together a wish list of resources and activities that they would like for the club and are in no doubt that staff will listen to their opinions and provide some of their requests. A real sense of belonging and ownership of the club are the benefits to the children of being fully involved in some of the decision making opportunities. This is further developed as they help to organise the daily routines, such as preparing the tables for tea and serving themselves.

The children are extremely well behaved. They know what is expected of them as they have discussed and helped to write the club rules. Older children remind younger ones of social rules such as sitting at the table when finishing off their meal. They are guided by staff that respond positively and fairly and remind them of behaviour boundaries. The children play and cooperate very well; they negotiate and compromise to secure satisfactory outcomes to disagreements. The children are friendly and respond to the constant praise and encouragement shown consistently by staff.

Children have extensive opportunities to learn about the world around them, through topics, activities and discussions. They learn about a variety of cultural and religious festivals throughout the year such as Eid, Hanukah and Diwali. Their positive experiences about diversity in the wider society are enhanced as they explore foods, stories, costumes and traditional dress from around the world. This understanding continues as they make representations of cultural and religious customs such as Rangoli patterns and making Diva lamps.

Strong partnerships with parents and links into the school contribute significantly to children's well-being and consistency of care. Parent's opinions are sought and valued through questionnaires and daily discussions. They receive comprehensive information about the service through welcome meetings, newsletters, policies and information on the notice board. A good working relationship with parents ensures that specific children's needs are well met.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's activities are planned in advance by the person in charge to ensure children are stimulated, interested and enjoy their time in the club. Staff work well together and complete the daily routine efficiently ensuring that the children are fully involved. The staff are well qualified and attend regular training that gives them knowledge of good practice and aids them in consistently implementing policies and procedures.

Induction, supervision and regular appraisals and some mandatory training such as child protection, first aid and food hygiene help the practitioners to safeguard children's health and welfare. The strong relationship with parents and their knowledge of policies particularly within behaviour management ensure a consistency of care for the children. Excellent links with the school and staff's commitment to acknowledging children's achievements within its systems enhance this overall consistency and supports children's sense of belonging within the

community very well.

The children are confident and secure in a welcoming environment. They enjoy their time in the club and therefore overall, the needs of the range of the children attending are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- improve the security of the outside premises when children are using this area.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk