



Rushmere Hall ASC

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY284045
Inspection date	19 July 2005
Inspector	Moira Oliver

Setting Address	Rushmere Hall CP School, Lanark Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 3EJ
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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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Rushmere Hall After School Club is part of Rainbow Bright Nursery and has been opened since May 2004. It operates from a room in Rushmere Hall CP School on the outskirts of Ipswich and serves children who attend the school. A maximum of 16 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open from 15.15 until 18.00 Monday to Friday during term time. The children have access to an area of the school playground for outdoor play.

There are currently 29 children from 5 years to 11 years on roll. The club supports children with special needs.

The club employs two members of staff. The staff hold relevant early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have their dietary needs met, they enjoy sandwiches with a range of fillings and are provided with fresh fruit. All children have access to water throughout the session and help themselves from jugs provided. Practitioners work well with parents to ensure children's allergies and food intolerances are known and recorded and alternatives offered. Currently sandwiches are stored at room temperature which may put the children's health at risk.

Children have some understanding of simple good health and hygiene practices as staff encourage them to wash after using the toilet and before eating, however children do not consistently use soap.

Children are becoming very skilled at balancing as they use the apparatus to climb, balance and jump. They have opportunities to develop and practise their ball skills as they enjoy games of short tennis, catch and football.

Children feel supported when they are unwell, staff give attention, kindness and reassurance, providing a fan to keep them cool, space and opportunities to sit quietly. Staff work with the parents to ensure appropriate care is given, permission sheets are completed to administer medication and first aid procedures are in place.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming, secure and safe indoor and outdoor environment. Staff carry out checks on the premises before each session and children are aware of the rules which include boundary lines around the playground. They stay in the allocated areas at all times within sight of the staff.

Children use suitable and safe equipment. The outdoor play equipment is secured into the ground and staff teach the children how to use it safely. They encourage children not to sit and block the way of others who are balancing, helping children to learn to keep themselves safe.

Children are protected because staff understand their role in child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary. Children are safe from unvetted adults on the premises, access is monitored with a door bell and staff are vigilant about locking the premises after each child has left.

Children are not aware of the procedures in the case of a fire. Permanent staff have liaised with the school to ensure they use the same procedures, however these are

not displayed and they do not practise evacuation.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children make positive relationships with each other as they share equipment, work together on a Lego model, play cards and ball games. They enjoy the company of the staff and actively seek them out to involve them in their play, ask them questions and to sit with them on the grass to chat.

Children independently access equipment from a range of age appropriate resources which are stored on accessible shelving and in low level cupboards. They are encouraged to tidy away after themselves and know where the equipment is kept. The children are able to choose to take resources outside and enjoy playing cards in a group on the grass.

Children acquire new knowledge and skills as they ask questions about spiders and eggs they find outside. They share their knowledge with others and lead them in a nature hunt. Children show interest and enjoyment as they find resources to decorate sticks and help others to access equipment.

Children have opportunities to repeat planned craft activities in their own time and their work is valued as staff display individual children's work on the walls of the room.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children develop self-esteem and respect for others as staff use clear explanations to encourage them to care for and to be kind to others. Children's understanding is increased by staff suggesting they look at the situation from the other child's point of view. Children feel confident enough to share their school work with the staff and other children, reading out the teacher's comments and showing pride in their achievements.

Children receive appropriate support when they are upset, staff listen to the children, give them time and space away from the others, talk to them gently and give cuddles and reassurance when needed.

Children feel a sense of belonging as they are sought out by friends to play ball or draw. Children work well together in a group as they create a Lego model discussing and negotiating with each other to decide its height.

Children behave well, they are aware of the rules and know what is expected of them. They take pride in their environment, helping to carry toys back indoors and tidy away the resources at the end of the session.

Staff are aware of children's individual needs and work with parents to ensure they

are met, for example through the discussions and recording of dietary and medication needs. Parents are very happy with the provision, they speak highly of the staff and the wide range of activities their children are offered.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by adults who are vetted and have relevant experience, knowledge and skills. The staff are interested in training and development which is ongoing, however they are not up-to-date with the latest inspection criteria which relates to outcomes for children. The children are supervised at all times and the group size and staff deployment contributed to the children's enjoyment of the session and their ability to take an active part in it.

The policies and procedures are written for the nursery and therefore do not reflect the club's individual needs. Registration forms are stored without any order and do not always contain an additional person's contact details in the case of an emergency. This may effect the staff's efficiency in dealing with an emergency.

Overall, children's needs 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?
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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):

- ensure that the provision for snacks complies with environmental health regulations relating to food safety

- ensure that children are aware of fire evacuation procedures and that these are practiced
- ensure policies and procedures are appropriate to the club and registration forms are organised.

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