



Ranikhet School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY315478
Inspection date	20 June 2006
Inspector	Lynne Elizabeth Lewington
Setting Address	Spey Road, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG30 4ED
Telephone number	01189 015221 or 0118 9015520
E-mail	
Registered person	Ranikhet School Governing Body
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School care, Crèche

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?

Ranikhet Out of School Club, Crèche and Holiday Play Scheme is part of Ranikhet Extended School. It is supported by the school head teacher and the governors of the school. It opened in 2005, and operates from rooms in a designated building within the school grounds. It is situated in Tilehurst, Reading. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

A maximum of 24 children under eight years may attend at any one time. Children may attend up to the age of 14 years. The out of school club is open each weekday from 08.00 to 08.45 and 15.15 to 18.30 term time only. The crèche is open each

weekday from 09.00 to 12.00 and 12.30 to 15.00 all year. There are currently 140 children on roll in the after school. The crèche attendance varies dependant on the course parents are attending.

Children come from the surrounding catchment area. The out of school club and crèche supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The out of school and crèche employs three permanent staff and five casual staff. Two members of staff including the manager hold an appropriate early years qualification, and five staff are working towards an national vocational qualification level 2.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are protected from becoming ill by the good standard of health and hygiene which is promoted in the setting. Children learn about the importance of personal hygiene, as they wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet. Staff and clear posters inform and remind the children on how to wash their hands effectively. Simple clear accidents, medication and incident records are completed and procedures followed to ensure good communication is maintained in the interests of the children's health and welfare. The majority of the staff team hold an up to date first aid certificate ensuring that there is always a qualified first aid staff member on duty.

Children are developing a good understanding of healthy eating. Parents provide individual information regarding their children's individual dietary needs. This ensures the staff provide food suitable to their requirements. Staff plan and prepare good quality fresh food each day for the children's meals. Healthy snacks of dried fruit and fruit juice are provided for a small charge however drinking water is not presented to the children as an option. Mealtimes are enjoyable sociable occasions where children and staff sit around the table and discuss their food, play and school.

Children have opportunity to take part in regular physical activity encouraging their individual physical abilities; however in the after school club children have little opportunity to rest and relax comfortably. The outside area provides a large field and hard standing for games and activities providing a safe fun area for physical games. The spacious crèche room provides an indoor play area where children can develop their physical skills as they move around and use the attractive age appropriate equipment.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The premises are welcoming, clean, well maintained and flooded with natural light. Children are extremely happy and settled in the environment, where they know the

routines and boundaries. They move freely around the designated rooms and choose the toys and activities they wish to use from a selection of good quality toys or planned activities. Staff ensure the environment looks attractive for the children by setting up the activities prior to the children's arrival. Staff check the toys and equipment regularly to ensure it is clean, suitable and safe for the children's use.

Staff demonstrate an awareness of child protection issues and the procedures they would follow if they were concerned about a child in their care. All the required documentation is in place to ensure the safety and welfare of the children.

Children benefit from the well organised and safe environment where risks are minimised and regular fire drills are undertaken. However the arrival procedure for the after school club is very chaotic, and noisy which may distract from its effectiveness in ensuring a clear record of arrival is maintained. Children are developing an awareness of keeping themselves safe through reminders from the staff, for example to pick toys up from the floor to prevent tripping.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic and confident in the crèche and after school club environment. They enjoy the interesting range of activities on offer to them and know the routines well.

The activities are planned to compliment their learning and development in a fun environment. For example in the after school club they have a construction evening where the activities offered provide various construction activities, such as building a totem pole with junk boxes, and building with Lego or K-nex. Later in the session children have opportunities to make wider independent choices on the activities they would like to undertake.

In the crèche, the children act out their life experiences as they freely enjoy the attractive imaginary play equipment, they make phone calls, prepare picnics and pretend to be a nurse looking after the baby doll. Staff support the children well. They are skilled at encouraging and listening to the children enabling them to develop their social skills and enjoy their play.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff know the children well; they talk and listen to them and develop an understanding of the children's individuality. Children are encouraged to respect and accept differences in their community. Children with special needs integrate into the group effectively and close links with a multi disciplinary team of professionals provides support to the staff in managing children's special needs.

Children are well behaved. They know what is expected of them as the school rules are also implemented in the setting. Staff act as positive role models using and

encouraging good manners and care and consideration for others.

A regular newsletter updates parents on events and the numbers of complaints received. Friendly discussion with parents when children are collected provides a good time for communication, enabling a good understanding to develop.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Effective recruitment procedures ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and suitable to work with young children. Good team work ensures that staff work together well to promote the children's, health, safety, enjoyment and achievement whilst using the services offered. The staff have a clear sense of purpose, they plan and use their time effectively and are actively involved in providing a service that promotes and encourages the children's social and learning skills.

The manager and her staff team are proactive and look to constantly improve the service they offer ensuring that it is continually developing. All the required documentation to protect the safety and welfare of the children in their care is clearly maintained. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration. The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

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 childrens access to drinking water to prevent dehydration
- improve arrival procedures at the start of the after school service to ensure the safety and well being of all children
- ensure after school club children have suitable areas to rest

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