



Ashlands Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY320102
Inspection date	05 July 2006
Inspector	Jane Elizabeth O'Callaghan
Setting Address	Ashlands Primary School, Leeds Road, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, LS29 8JY
Telephone number	01943 609050
E-mail	office@ashlands.ngfl.ac.uk
Registered person	Ashlands Out of School Club Management Committee
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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Ashlands Out of School Group has been registered since 2005. The group operates from the small hall, large hall and a fenced off outdoor area in the school grounds. It is situated on the outskirts of Ilkley.

The group is open Monday to Friday from 08.00 until 09.00 and 15.00 until 17.00, term time only. It is registered for a total of 30 children aged from five to 11-years-old. There are currently 30 children on roll. All children attending the out of school group are pupils of the school.

The group employs eight staff, with a majority of the staff holding appropriate childcare qualifications. Other staff are working towards childcare qualifications and also have vast experience in childcare.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children develop a good understanding about the importance of healthy practices through effective daily routines and staff explanations. They are fully encouraged to practice good routines of personal hygiene and wash their hands independently after messy play, toileting, before eating and also preparing of snacks. Children develop a positive approach to physical exercise. The session is well organised each day to ensure they have good opportunities both indoors and outdoors to develop their physical skills. Children are well cared for in the event of illness or an accident. Staff have attended first aid training, ensuring that accidents are recorded and the administering of medication is fully implemented. However, accident forms needs to be correctly completed and stored in a suitable manner. This ensures that confidentiality between children and parents is maintained at all times.

Children are kept very safe from the spread of infection. Staff clean tables before and after activities, following detailed hygiene routines. They have effective procedures in place to ensure food is stored and prepared safely. Children's individual dietary needs are fully met, as staff gain detailed information on all children's dietary requirements on registration. They are offered a healthy, balanced diet and can independently access drinks throughout the session. This ensures children are in a healthy environment.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment, which is clean and well maintained. The rooms and resources are well organised, which enables children to move around freely and safely. They have free access to a good range of well maintained toys and play equipment, which meets the needs of all children attending. For example, sports equipment, games, construction, arts and crafts are all accessible to the children.

Children are kept safe in the setting. Staff are aware of potential hazards and take steps to minimise risks to children. There are good safety measures in place, including fire prevention equipment and a secure outdoor play area. Children develop a satisfactory knowledge about safety in the setting. However, fire drills need to be practised, to ensure children and staffs safety and awareness.

Children are protected from abuse or neglect. Staff have understanding and knowledge in this area and are aware of their responsibilities to the children in their care. The staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedure to

follow with any concerns. There is a child protection policy and procedure available to parents and staff.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's independence is promoted through a variety of opportunities. They move around freely accessing toys, play equipment, drinks and learn to be independent. The children's opinion is highly valued, through them having free choice of toys. Children are fully involved in a good range of enjoyable activities; all of which develop their language, imagination, creative and physical development. For example, games, construction, role play, computer, arts and crafts.

The children have access also to a good variety of physical activities, both inside and outside. For example, indoors children can play table tennis and badminton, whilst outside gardening, football and netball is available.

The children are very happy and settled and are keen to communicate with staff, enthusiastically showing them things they have done and talking to them about their experiences. They are confident in the setting and receive lots of praise and encouragement to help raise their self-esteem. They build warm relationships with staff, who are very interested in them, constantly interacting with the children and asking them questions to make them think.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are valued as individuals and are treated with equal concern. All children are welcome, regardless of ability and there are appropriate arrangements in place to care for children with learning difficulties and disabilities. Children are given opportunities to increase their knowledge of the wider world through discussions with staff, resources and celebrating of festivals. This is an area that staff are continually enhancing, to ensure that children learn about their community and the world around them.

Children are given good opportunities to develop their understanding of the difference between right and wrong. For example, children have devised their own behaviour rules. The children behave well and show concern for each other. Staff explain the reasons behind behaviour boundaries to help children learn to understand the consequences of their actions. They are given lots of praise and encouragement to reinforce good behaviour, with staff using an appropriate range of strategies to suitably manage their behaviour.

Partnership with parents is effective and children's individual needs are well met as staff work alongside parents to collect detailed information about each child at registration. They are fully informed about the setting and their child through discussions and exchanges of information verbally and through regular newsletters.

Parents are also encouraged to take an active part in the group. For example, a parent who is a veterinary nurse came in to discuss the job and also to contribute in topics, like the gardening club. This ensures that the group works with parents in a positive manner.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The setting is suitably organised. Staffing ratios are consistently adhered to. The care of the children is enhanced, as staff have the required qualifications. Appropriate vetting procedures are carried out on all staff. They have a suitable induction, which helps them understand their roles and responsibilities and staff effectively implement routines to give children a broad range of experiences.

Children benefit from well deployed staff, who consistently interact with them and give them effective support and encouragement, which helps them feel secure and confident. Children are kept safe and healthy as staff attend and update training, including first aid. Most policies are available, however, the complaint procedure needs to be updated. All other policies and procedures are implemented and available to staff and parents. This ensures a positive impact on the children. Space and resources are well organised to meet the needs of all children.

Overall the provision 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 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 all accident forms are completed and kept in a confidential manner
- ensure children and staff are aware of fire procedures
- develop a complaint policy to meet with new regulations.

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