



Wyndham for Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY290748
Inspection date	23 November 2006
Inspector	Janet Fairhurst
Setting Address	Wyndham Playgroup, Wyndsail Avenue, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE3 4QP
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Registered person	Wyndham Playgroup
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Sessional 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?

Wyndham for Childcare was registered in May 2006, the playgroup has been operating since 2004. It is based within Wyndham Primary School, which is situated within the Kenton area of Newcastle. The out of school operates from the nursery classroom whilst the play group operates from a purpose built self-contained room with its own kitchen and toilet facilities. Children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area, library, school gym and hall.

The playgroup and out of school provides care for a maximum of 40 children. The out of school operates from 07.55 to 08.55 and from 15.30 to 17.45 Monday to Thursday, and from 14.30 to 17.45 every Friday, term time only. The playgroup operates from 09.00 to 11.30 every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday term time only. There are currently 30 children on roll.

There are eight members of staff employed to work directly with the children of whom all hold appropriate early years qualifications. The provision receives support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Staff have a clear knowledge of hygiene procedures, which are implemented effectively, helping to promote children's well-being. They present as positive role models, for example wearing disposable gloves when nappy changing, hand washing and cleaning table top surfaces at appropriate times. Children are beginning to learn the importance of good personal hygiene through consistent daily routines. They learn about good hygiene practices because they are encouraged to wash their hands, and there are low level sinks and paper towels available to make hand washing a simple and enjoyable experience for children. First aid training is completed by staff which ensures the treatment of injuries are carried out appropriately.

Children benefit from vigorous exercise when they play in the well planned outdoor environment. They enjoy using a range of movements, such as throwing, climbing and sliding, assisted in this where necessary by the attentive staff. Staff encourage children to develop their physical skills whilst having fun, such as playing with hoops, making shapes with hand held streamers and climbing on the outdoor play equipment. Children move freely with pleasure and confidence within the setting and are beginning to show respect for each other's personal space when playing together.

Children are provided with healthy options at each meal, such as cheese and biscuits and fresh fruit, all of which are thoroughly enjoyed by the children. However, the children are not provided with crockery from which to eat their food from. Staff sit with the children encouraging them to try a variety of different tastes, helping them to learn about healthy eating principles. A choice of milk and water is offered to children throughout the session, which ensures the children do not become dehydrated.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in an appropriate safe and secure environment. They are well protected because access to the playgroup is monitored and controlled and staff are very clear about who is authorised to collect children from the setting. Children use a broad range of good quality, developmentally appropriate resources, which foster all areas of their development. Posters, children's artwork and photographs are displayed well, helping to provide a sense of ownership of their environment.

Children's safety is promoted well within the setting by the undertaking of regular risk assessments and staff use these to take good precautions to safeguard children. Close supervision of children is used by the staff to help prevent accidents and keep children safe. There are good written policies covering a wide range of safety issues, and staff are fully aware of these issues which help protect children well. There are good fire safety procedures in place and records of practice evacuations. Staff greet parents and children on arrival and oversee their departure which ensures good security for the building, thus keeping children safe. Children are also learning good practices regarding their own personal safety, as they are reminded to

be careful when moving around, and to pick toys up from the floor to prevent them slipping over them. Effective supervision by staff keeps children safe without limiting their opportunities to play freely and experience challenge.

Children are well protected from possible abuse or neglect. Staff have a good understanding of the procedures to follow should they have any concerns. They know the signs and symptoms to look out for, and who to contact should they need support or advice.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive happily and settle well as staff offer a warm welcome. They immediately engage in meaningful activity, such as malleable materials, outdoor play and creative activities. The children are encouraged and supported by enthusiastic staff who effectively implement a programme of activities based on themes and using the 'Birth to three matters' framework. Children enjoy a range of stimulating and interesting activities which help them to make progress in all areas of development. However, due to the organisation of resources, children are restricted to the activities set out by staff. This limits children's opportunities to make independent choices and decisions. They are learning to share, take turns and to have respect and consideration for each other because staff use good support strategies, taking time to listen to children and talk about what they are doing together, thereby enhancing children's enjoyment and learning. All are forming good relationships with staff and peers.

Children's confidence and self-esteem is considerably enhanced by the consistent quality of staff interaction. Children are listened to and their language and communication skills are effectively encouraged by staff that challenge and respond positively to their questions. Social and learning skills are expanded through regular daily routines and activities, such as creative and imaginary play. Staff have a very good understanding of how children learn; activities are adapted to ensure that all children can participate. Staff take photographs showing the children involved in their play and these are displayed or kept in folders to monitor their progress and for parents to see.

Children attending the breakfast club are enthusiastic and keen to participate in the activities on offer. They demonstrate a high level of confidence and are eager to share their skills. For example, one child became very excited when asked to show his peer how to complete a computer game. This approach instils in children a feeling of self-worth and demonstrates that their contributions are valued.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are included in the activities provided and individual needs are well met. This helps to promote children's confidence and self-esteem. Children develop an awareness of diversity and the wider community as staff make good use of resources and planned activities to promote this. They benefit from activities that are gender-free as they have access to an appropriate range of toys, resources and learning opportunities. They learn about their local community as

they welcome visitors to the group and about the wider world through activities involving different festivals and foods, and using play materials reflecting diversity.

Children behave well as staff give them plenty of praise and support for their efforts and achievements. A star reward system is used to promote good behaviour and develop self-esteem. Staff act as good role models, showing respect and consideration for children and each other. Children's understanding of right and wrong is fostered through the staff setting good examples and having clear realistic expectations of children's behaviour. They are encouraged to use social conventions, such as please and thank you and are given well deserved praise, for example, when they help to tidy up and help each other.

Relationships with parents are promoted and developed well. Staff make good use of the parents' knowledge to meet the children's care needs. The staff share information about the children's activities through informal talks when the parents collect their children, and through regular newsletters. Verbal feedback from parents is positive. They comment on how well their children have settled and friendly staff.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from the strong management and effective organisation of the setting. They feel settled, secure and confident in the care as senior staff take lead roles in overseeing the day to day running of the playgroup ensuring that policies and procedures are consistently applied. Staff working with the children are enthusiastic, knowledgeable and clear about their roles and therefore consistently promote children's well-being. Children are actively supervised at all times because of the effective deployment of staff and organisation of the room.

The priority given to staff development and training is good. Induction procedures are well established and daily discussions ensure that all staff are fully informed, included and valued. The staff's experience and knowledge enables them to work very well together as a team and provide a secure and stimulating environment for the children. The group has a good range of required record keeping, policies and procedures. However, a record of staff and children's arrival and departure times is not maintained. Written notices are displayed to remind parents of the need to share important information that could affect their children's care. Parents complete a detailed information form about their child and any particular needs are noted and shared with staff.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

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.

Since registration, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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):

- ensure children can access appropriate crockery during meal times
- improve the organisation and storage of resources and toys so that children can view and make independent choices from what is available
- ensure that a record of staff attendance is maintained and also the arrival and departure times are recorded for both children and staff.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk