



Rainbow Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY296286
Inspection date	13 September 2005
Inspector	Christine Myerscough
Setting Address	Chapel Street CP School, Chapel Street, Levenshulme, Manchester, Lancashire, M19 3GH
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Registered person	Corrina Cottrell
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?

Rainbow Kids Out of School Club opened in 2004. It operates from a resource building in the grounds of Chapel Street County Primary School in Levenshulme, Manchester. The club serves Chapel Street School and St Andrew's Primary School and is open to the community. A maximum of 30 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 15.00 to 18.00 during term time. During the Easter and summer school holiday periods, the club is open from 08.00 to 17.30.

There are currently 13 children aged from 3 to under 8 years on roll. The club

supports children with special needs.

There is a manager and five staff who work with the children, three of whom hold appropriate qualifications in play work and two are working towards qualification. The club receives support from the SureStart Childcare Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Positive steps are taken to reduce the risk of cross infection to keep children free from harm. For example, staff carry out regular checks to ensure there are suitable hand washing facilities available at all times for the children. Good hygiene practices are also implemented by staff when preparing and handling food. Children learn to follow appropriate hygiene routines as staff remind them to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. However, some areas around the building are not kept clean posing a potential risk to children's health. Sufficient staff are trained in first aid and most of the appropriate permissions are in place with parents regarding health care matters to ensure children's welfare.

Daily activities in the outdoor play area provides children with regular exercise which contributes to their physical health. Children show an eagerness to be outdoors and as a result, benefit from a good amount of fresh air. They enjoy the fun and freedom of running around in a spacious environment. Chasing their friends and playing games produces plenty of excitement. Children develop their self-confidence in their physical skills as they ride scooters at speed and play with hoops. They make good use of the comfortable seating to unwind and rest their bodies to ensure their overall well-being.

A balanced range of snacks promotes children's growth and development. Food is well presented to appeal to children's appetite. Children enthusiastically help themselves to healthy options such as, fresh fruit and vegetables. They enjoy sitting together at the table and relaxing. Juice is available at snack time although children do not have ready access to drinking water to keep them refreshed.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The premises are maintained in a good state of repair and decoration to provide comfortable and inviting surroundings for the children. Space and furniture are well organised so children move freely in between the indoor and outdoor play areas without worrying about injuring themselves. Gentle reminders from staff such as, no children allowed in the kitchen or standing on chairs, safeguards children's welfare. There are good fire precautions to ensure children do not come to harm. Clear procedures for evacuation of the building are carried out with the children to help them become aware and familiar with safe practices. Toys and equipment are well maintained although the way they are organised means they are not fully accessible

to the children. This limits their choices.

Staff deploy themselves effectively and supervise the children closely to prevent accidents. Suitable security arrangements contribute to keeping the children safe. However, risk assessments are not carried out regularly enough and as a consequence, staff have not identified that sockets at child height are exposed. This poses a potential hazard to children. In the main, records and procedures relating to safety matters are in place to comply with requirements. Children are well protected as staff have a good understanding of their role with regard to child protection. Procedures are shared with parents so they are aware of staff's responsibilities.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and enjoy attending the club. The relaxed atmosphere enables them to settle in quickly. They confidently chat to friends and play games together such as, tennis. Staff establish positive relationships with the children to help them feel secure. Children are familiar with the routine of the club as they hang up their coats on arrival and sit down for the register to be taken. They are complimentary about the staff and value their friendliness.

Children spend their time purposefully. They take pride in perfecting their art work and eagerly show off their achievements to staff. Computers are a popular choice and children confidently access them independently. They enjoy having a story read to them and looking at books. Staff plan and evaluate play opportunities to ensure children are interested and take part in what is on offer. However, activities are not sufficiently wide ranging to support their overall learning.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children from a variety of backgrounds are warmly welcomed. Staff create an environment where children are treated equally and fairly. This enhances children's confidence and self-esteem. Staff work effectively with parents and outside agencies to ensure that children with special needs are well supported and fully included. Children learn to value differences through discussion and stories. Although few resources are available reflecting diversity to promote children's understanding of the wider world.

Staff act as good role models. Their calm and consistent approach has a positive impact on children's behaviour. As a consequence, children enjoy mutually respectful relationships with staff, follow their guidance and behave well. Children are polite and courteous to visitors. They play well together, form friendships and eagerly share their toys from home.

Parents speak positively about the club. They are happy with how information is shared about their children's welfare and find staff approachable. Parents are kept

abreast of the club's policies and procedures via a notice board. However, practices are not robust enough with regard to the secure storage of records in order to maintain confidentiality.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a positive environment. This enables them to enjoy a good time. Staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities to promote children's well-being. Regular staff meetings are held to establish good communication systems to meet children's needs. The organisation of staffing ensures required ratios are met at all times and children receive individual support when required.

The management is committed to the continuous improvement of the club. Staff attend regular training courses to update their knowledge and skills in play work and undergo appraisals. Documentation and procedures which contribute to children's health and safety are well-organised however, some lack the necessary detail. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

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.

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 the premises are clean
- conduct a risk assessment on the premises identifying action to be taken to minimize identified risks

- improve the range of activities for children to support their overall learning and make resources accessible to allow as much choice as possible
- ensure all paperwork is in place and stored appropriately

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