



St Anthony's After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY293552

Inspection date 29 November 2005

Inspector Rod Green

Setting Address The Annexe, St. Anthony's Drive, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 3SQ

Telephone number

E-mail

Registered person St Anthony's After School Club

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St Anthony's After School Club opened in 2004 and operates from three main rooms in a community building next door to St Anthony's Primary School in Preston, Lancashire. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open during term time from 07:45 to 08:45 and 15:15 to 17:30. Children have access to a secure outdoor area.

There are currently 30 children aged from 4 to under 8 years on roll.

The club employs six staff. Two staff, including the manager hold appropriate early

years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment in which their physical needs are positively met thus contributing to their good health.

The children's health and hygiene is well promoted because the staff have a knowledge of the health and safety policies and have rotas in place to ensure the environment is clean. The staff encourage the children to follow good practices to ensure they are pro-active in washing their hands and are becoming independent in their personal care.

Children understand the benefits of a healthy diet and readily demonstrate their knowledge in discussing the need to eat fruit and vegetables, therefore meeting their dietary requirements. The children help themselves to drinking water and understand their own need to drink, when feeling thirsty, thus learning about the needs of their own bodies. The children make choices from a healthy diet, which includes a variety of snacks and fresh fruit enabling them to make healthy decisions.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in an environment where they can move freely because the staff maintain an organised play area in which they can make choices and decisions about their play. They benefit from a good selection of equipment and resources and can choose to take part in more physical games for example, football, skipping and bat and ball games.

Children have their safety well promoted because the staff carry out frequent risk assessments on all areas including the outdoor area. All areas are secured or made safe for children.

Children's welfare is safeguarded because the staff are secure in their understanding of child protection and the action they need to take should they be concerned about a child in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a good planning system providing activities which incorporate all areas of play enabling them to have choice.

They develop their independence by choosing boisterous play after snack time thus using up their energy ready for quieter activities. They learn how to work as a team and to play together by joining in and working together in the ball games provided.

They are enthusiastic and actively engage themselves in the creative and construction areas. They seek out play opportunities and giggle, laugh, and smile as they communicate with their friends during their time at the club. Thus children's social needs and social skills are catered for in a positive and encouraging environment.

Children are supported in their play by staff that sit with them, talk to them about their day and encourage them to make the most of the activities. The children show delight and an eagerness to take part in the activities provided and readily seek out staff to assist them in their play.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children are fully included in all activities and understand about turn taking and fairness thus children are part of the setting and involved. The children have experiences of learning about cultures through the celebration of festivals. The very good resources enhances children's ability to represent diversity through practical experiences, for example, role play.

Children are very well behaved and follow instructions from staff. They are involved in decision making regarding behaviour boundaries and rules are explained to them. They understand what is expected of them and learn to make decisions about their behaviour taking responsibility for themselves.

Parents are informed of the clubs policies and procedures because the staff provide a notice board for parents providing information on staff. Opportunities are provided for parents to discuss their child at the end of each session. Therefore the needs of their child can be met effectively.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children feel secure and at ease within the setting. This enables them to make choices and decisions about their play, promoting their independence. The organisation of the setting means children can initiate their own play and plan the activities they wish to take part in.

There are effective procedures for ensuring staff are vetted and experienced to work with children. Policies and procedures are available to all parents, children and staff to keep them informed of the settings intentions. All required documentation is in place and readily available although not all documentation is kept in a confidential manner.

Children's details and information necessary to meet their needs are readily accessible and ensure staff are fully informed of the child's details.

Overall, the setting meets the needs of the children who attend.

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. There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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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 all documentation is kept in a confidential manner

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