



Class of Their Own @ Portslade Infants

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY333768
Inspection date	29 August 2006
Inspector	Felicity Gaff
Setting Address	Portslade County Infant School, Locks Hill, Portslade, BRIGHTON, BN41 2LA
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Registered person	Class Of Their Own Ltd
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?

Class of Their Own @ Portslade Infants is one of five out-of-school clubs run by Class of Their Own Ltd. It opened in 2006 and operates from an infants' school in Portslade, East Sussex. The club is registered for a maximum of 40 children at any one time. Children from the age of five years to 11 years of age attend. The club is open each weekday during term time from 15.00 until 17.45, and from 08.30 until 17.30 during school holidays. There is a fully enclosed area for outdoor play. There are variable numbers of children on roll who are drawn from the surrounding residential area. The setting currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, as well as a number of children who speak English as

an additional language. There are five members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications and two are working towards a qualification. The group receives support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children have many opportunities to engage in active, physical play. They climb, swing and balance on age-appropriate apparatus in the playground, they ride on scooters and play group games such as football. Everyday activities are augmented by occasional outings, for instance, visiting the local park or going swimming. Children learn to keep themselves healthy as they follow good personal hygiene routines. They understand the importance of not sharing food in order to protect children with allergies. They learn good sun care habits; for example, they use sun cream, play in the shade and drink water regularly. Children are protected from illness and infection because the premises they use are kept suitably clean and hygienic. Staff monitor maintenance work taking place elsewhere on the premises to ensure it does not adversely affect children's health. There are good systems for administering medication, and minor accidents are suitably managed and recorded. Staff provide healthy snacks and drinks and ensure children's individual dietary needs are met.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Staff have robust procedures to keep children safe. They liaise closely with the host school and carry out good risk assessments and daily safety checks. They record incidents in detail, and promptly address any issues raised. They monitor accident records regularly in order to identify and minimise any risks to children on the premises. Children learn to keep themselves safe and avoid accidental injury because staff explain the reasons for safety routines. Children are able to consider the consequences of their actions as they devise their own behaviour rules. Staff have an acceptable understanding of child protection issues; they know how to record and report any concerns. They have ready access to good policies and procedures and these support them well in protecting children from abuse or neglect.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children feel secure and at ease at the setting because they are cared for by staff who recognise and meet their individual needs. Children are able to choose from a range of interesting open-ended activities. Staff respect children's choices and manage the day well to allow them the maximum opportunity to play freely. As a result, children organise themselves well and engage in elaborate, imaginative role

play. They negotiate effectively to solve disagreements. Staff are observant and carefully arrange activities to include all the children; they adapt their plans flexibly to accommodate the interests of the children attending. Children form excellent relationships with staff. For example, staff develop the social aspect of mealtimes well by sitting and eating with the children, and are skilled in engaging everyone in conversations.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel at ease in the setting because staff respect their individual needs and preferences and offer children many choices of what they do. They help children make friends by pairing them with a buddy when they first attend. There are very good arrangements to meet the needs of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, as staff work closely with their parents. They adapt games and activities imaginatively to allow everyone to take part. Children understand how they ought to behave; they contribute their ideas and develop their understanding by discussing what rules should be in place and why they are needed. Staff use positive methods to teach good behaviour. They explain clearly what children should do and praise their successes. They help them recognise the effect of poor behaviour on others and encourage them to decide what they should do to make amends. Staff create effective partnership with parents. Parents receive very good information about the service provided before their children attend, which is updated by newsletters every half term. Parental feedback is sought through a questionnaire and staff monitor responses to identify any areas for improvement or development.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. The provider has good procedures in place to ensure that people caring for children are suitable. There are effective arrangements for induction and training, which support staff well in providing good quality care for children. The provider visits the setting regularly to monitor and improve day-to-day practice. Risk assessments and incident records are used effectively to protect children from people who have not been vetted. The provider ensures that staff ratios are maintained and supports staff in undertaking training to improve their qualifications. All the required documentation to support children's welfare and the smooth running of the setting is in place. However, parents sometimes receive insufficient information, as authorisations for outings lack detail and parents do not always sign incident records.

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 parental authorisations for outings and travel in a vehicle, and ensure incident records are signed by parents.

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