



## **Pied Piper Activites Limited**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	113645
<b>Inspection date</b>	24 August 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Janet Marie Thouless
<b>Setting Address</b>	Great Ballard School, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0LR
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<b>Registered person</b>	Pied Piper Activities Ltd
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Pied Piper Activities Ltd has been registered since 1997. It operates from the Great Ballard School in Earham, West Sussex. Pied Piper Activities are part of a group of holiday activity schemes operating in the southeast. Specific areas of the school are used during the summer holidays for swimming, art and craft, drama, video games, woodland games and sports. The pool is situated in an enclosed area and outdoor sports and team games take place in the extensive grounds.

Pied Piper is registered to care for 65 children aged from four to eight years, although care is also provided for children up to the age of 12 years. There are currently 40

children from four to eight years on roll. The holiday activities are available from Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 5.45 pm for approximately four weeks during the summer holidays.

A team of qualified and experienced staff work with the children. All staff have valid CRB clearances and three hold first aid certificates.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children's health and wellbeing is effectively promoted and given high priority by the staff team. Children understand the importance of good hygiene practice and wash hands regularly to prevent cross infection. Clear policies are in place to ensure children who are infectious do not attend which helps prevent the spread of cross infection. A number of staff hold current first-aid certificates. This means they are able to administer first aid in the event of an accident or in an emergency.

Children are developing their independence and understanding of their personal care extremely well. Children are able to help themselves to water and carry their own drinks bottle around with them to prevent dehydration. Staff work effectively with parents and keep appropriate records to ensure children's individual health and dietary requirements are fully met.

Meal and snack times are relaxed and sociable with children sitting together in small numbers with staff members. In fine weather, children enjoy eating outside in the school grounds. They enjoy a packed lunch provided by parents and staff monitor to ensure children eat healthier options first and do not share food with others.

Children enjoy physical exercise and learn about the importance of activity in a healthy lifestyle as they join in a range of physical games. They enjoy and participate in swimming to gain confidence in the water and games, such as, 'Crossing the Red Sea' and 'What's the time Mr Wolf' to help them to work together as teams, develop friendships and their self-esteem.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children are well protected from harm and cared for in a welcoming, safe and secure environment. Staff are vigilant about the children's safety at all times. Risk assessments are carried out daily to show how the premises and grounds are kept safe. This means that staff are competent in identifying and addressing any potential hazards. Staff supervise children closely and children are reminded throughout the course of the day and at activities sessions, such as, swimming and riding the go-karts on how to keep themselves safe. Staff ensure children are unable to leave the premises and that any visitors cannot enter unchallenged which ensures children's safety at all times.

Children show great interest in the range of activities on offer and enthusiastically participate. Children have access to a good range of resources, for example, craft resources to make costumes for the talent show. This ensures that children are provided with suitable and stimulating play opportunities at all times.

Children are well protected because staff have a clear understanding of their role within child protection and of the policies and procedures in place. All of these measures contribute to the safety and wellbeing of the children.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is outstanding.

Children are enthusiastic and enjoy participating in a range of challenging activities. Opportunities are provided that allow children to practice social and practical skills, for example, when participating in swimming, team games or the many creative activities on offer. Children have excellent opportunities to make individual choices and are eager to participate in the well-planned but flexible range of activities.

Children become competent learners as they explore resources and activities on offer. They have many opportunities to express their feelings and ideas. For example, children participate in creative play; they plan and prepare an extensive range of props and costumes in readiness for their talent show at the end of each week. Their imaginations are fostered extremely well when making dens from twigs and branches in the private woods within the school grounds. Staff allow children time and space to explore and be creative with their thoughts and ideas, but maintain a safe distance to ensure children's wellbeing. Children become very excited whilst preparing to use the go-karts. They skilfully negotiate the track showing good co-ordination and control.

Children are confident, independent and have good self-esteem. Children speak confidently to peers and adults about past and present events in their lives. They talk openly during group activities, snack times and after lunch about themselves and their families. They express their ideas and experiences well using good vocabulary. Staff are effective in supporting children who are less confident and challenge the more able children by encouraging them to think and problem solve.

Children have lots of fun and take pride in their achievements. They develop trusting relationships with staff, and enjoy socialising with their friends. They are interested, engaged and occupied and as a result feel a sense of place and belonging within the setting. Staff involve children in expressing their thoughts on activities provided and sharing ideas on what they enjoy and least enjoyed so they can plan accordingly.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children are relaxed and at ease within their surroundings, because staff make them feel welcome and ensure they are settled and happily engaged. Staff warmly greet all children and talk to parents to establish a good understanding and awareness of

children's individual needs.

Children benefit from good levels of support, and activities are organised to ensure they can participate and achieve at their own level. Children develop positive attitudes towards each other; they are aware of other people's needs and show respect for each other's ideas. Children enjoy receiving certificates of achievements, such as, go-kart racing. Staff are consistent with their approach to behaviour management but sensitive to children's levels of ability and understanding. They are good role models and use appropriate strategies, which children understand and respect.

Children benefit from the good relationships the staff build with their parents. Staff ensure there is sufficient time to share information with the parents as they drop off and collect their children. Parents are welcomed and receive comprehensive information about the setting.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children feel comfortable and at ease in the well-organised setting. Children receive good support from a group of staff that enjoy their company and know them well, helping them feel secure, happy and confident. Staff are deployed appropriately, work well together as a team and offer the children good levels of supervision at all times.

Procedures are in place for the recruitment and vetting of staff, ensuring children are well protected and cared for by staff with a good knowledge and understanding of child development. Management has a high regard for staff and they work extremely well as a team.

All required documentation is clearly maintained and in place, with good record keeping systems to ensure children's wellbeing. Policies and procedures are implemented well by staff therefore promoting children's health, safety and well-being. However, the complaints procedure does not include a record to share with parents as required. Management has a clear sense of purpose and commitment to continual improvement.

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

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, the provider was asked to ensure that all staff undergo a vetting procedure that the complaints procedure includes contact details of the regulator and they inform Ofsted of significant incidents.

These recommendations have been fully implemented by the provider. The vetting procedure has been updated to ensure those caring for children complete a criminal records check. The complaints procedure now includes details of the regulator and a

procedure is in place to notify Ofsted of significant events to ensure the safety and well-being of the children being cared for.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since 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.

## **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):

- update written complaint procedures to include a complaints record to share with parents as required.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)