



Preston Grange Out Of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY299197
Inspection date	08 June 2005
Inspector	Julie Larner

Setting Address	Preston Grange Primary School, Chiltern Road, North Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE29 9QL
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Telephone number

E-mail

Registered person	Schools Out (Northern) Ltd
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Type of inspection	Childcare
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Type of care	Out of School care
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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?

Preston Grange Out Of School Club was registered in November 2004. The club is part of a local chain called Schools Out Northern Ltd. The group is situated in Preston Grange Primary School, Preston Grange, North Shields. The group has sole use of a room within the school at the times they operate. There is a field and playground attached to the school and these are used for outdoor play.

The group caters for children who attend the school and operate from 15:30 to 17:45 from Monday to Friday during school term-time.

There are two members of staff, who both hold appropriate qualifications. There are currently 26 children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are learning about the importance of physical exercise. They have very good opportunities to participate in activities to help them with these skills. They are involved in a range of interesting and exciting activities that they enjoy, for example, playing football and piggy in the middle. They are gaining increasing control over their bodies and enjoy challenging themselves, for example finding out how far they can go on scooters.

Children are cared for in a clean and warm environment. Through staff's good hygiene practise the environment is kept clean and children are protected from cross infection. Children are well cared for if they are ill as staff ensure that they are made comfortable and have a good understanding of the procedures to follow. Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through well planned daily routines and they are independent in self-care skills.

Children are beginning to learn about the importance of healthy eating. They are provided with healthy snacks that are attractively presented and meet their individual dietary needs. Children independently choose from a range of drinks and snack time is a social occasion where children talk about their day and what they wish to do in the club.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children learn how to stay safe due to staff's consistent vigilance and appropriate explanations. Children are beginning to take responsibility for safety in a way that is appropriate to their age with staff encouragement, for example staff sensitively remind children about the boundaries of the outdoor play area. Staff skilfully explain safe practises, such as why children should not walk around whilst eating as they may hurt themselves. This helps children to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe. Children move freely and safely around the setting.

Staff show a strong commitment to maintaining a safe environment and good supervision, whilst also allowing children to make choices; for example, they deploy themselves effectively outside and open the window blinds to ensure that they can still see what is happening indoors and those staff indoors can see out.

Children are cared for in a safe, light and airy environment that is suitable for its purpose. However, due to other groups that use the room, the area for children to rest or play quietly is not effective, for example the book area is currently used to store items for other groups and children cannot use this area. Children's work is

displayed well and creates a sense of ownership over the space, whilst also raising their self esteem and confidence. Children choose easily from a fair range of safe and good quality equipment.

The staff safeguard and promote children's welfare and the group has all the required procedures and documents in place. There is a nominated person for first aid and all staff have recently completed child protection training.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have good relationships with staff and the other children. They play well together and are forming good relationships with their friends. Children help each other and staff and they enjoy taking on tasks, for example they switch off the computer when asked.

Children are very confident about making decisions about what they want to do. The ethos of the group is successful in allowing children to feel involved in the group and catering for what the children want to do. Staff are very committed to this. Children choose from a wide range of interesting activities and settle well to these.

Children feel comfortable within the group and settle well to their chosen activities. They are confident in expressing their needs and wants, for example, they choose which items they want to decorate their craft activities. Children are involved in fun and stimulating activities that capture their interests and are available to all children regardless of their attendance, for example a craft activity may run all week so that children can choose when they wish to do it.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are beginning to learn about negotiation. They do this willingly with staff support and are happy to take turns and share. Children behave very well due to the consistent boundaries and good knowledge the staff have of behaviour issues. They enjoy taking responsibility for small tasks, for example they give drinks out to other children and help to tidy away equipment. Children are learning about good manners and take great pride in sharing their achievements with their friends, such as when they master a new skill.

Good information is gained from parents to enable children's individual needs to be met. Staff work in partnership with parents to ensure that children can be involved in a wide range of after school activities. Parents are kept informed about the group through regular newsletters and daily chats with staff.

Children readily make decisions about their play and some aspects of the group, for example children have created a "wish list" of equipment they would like. They decide what they wish to do and, due to good support from the staff, children are kept interested in their play. Through staff's good commitment to allowing children choices

about what they wish to do during sessions, children are confident about making decisions.

Children are beginning to learn about the wider world. Activities are provided that are interesting and help children to learn about other cultures, for example children make lanterns to display for Chinese New Year and staff plan activities to celebrate different cultures throughout the year.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's needs are met through generally effective organisation. Practitioners have a sound knowledge and understanding of childcare. They understand and generally follow the setting's acceptable policies and procedures to take appropriate steps to protect children, promote their well-being and support their development.

The staff team creates an orderly environment in which to care for children; children engage in activities and sustain interest in them for periods of time. Staff make appropriate use of their time, space and resources to create a suitable environment for children. The children are safe, settled, secure and confident within their environment.

The staff work well together as a team, because of this children receive good help and support in their play. Staff show a strong commitment to undertaking extra training to update their skills and knowledge. This allows them to reflect on and improve their practise, which in turn benefits the children.

Documentation is up-to-date and mostly well recorded however, Ofsted is not consistently informed about staff working in the group.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children attending.

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

- provide a suitable comfortable area where children can rest or play quietly
- ensure that Ofsted is informed about all staff working in the group.

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