



Rhymes at Beacon Hill Out of School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY321275
Inspection date	12 September 2006
Inspector	Glenda Kathleen Field
Setting Address	Martlesham Beacon Hill Primary School, Black Tiles Lane, Martlesham, WOODBRIDGE, Suffolk, IP12 4SS
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Registered person	Little Joe Ltd trading as Rhymes Nursery
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Sessional 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?

Rhymes @ Beacon Hill operates from premises situated within the grounds of Martlesham Beacon Hill Primary School in Martlesham Heath, Suffolk. The setting provides a breakfast club and after school club, and are able to care for a maximum of 23 children at any one time. There are currently a total of 15 children on roll, nine attend the after school club and six the breakfast club. The breakfast club operates from 07.30 to 09.00, and the after school club operates from 15.30 until 18.00 daily during term times. A holiday club operates Monday to Friday from 08.00 to 18.00 during school holidays. The setting caters for children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Five staff are employed, two hold relevant qualifications and two are currently working towards obtaining qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are learning the importance of good hygiene practices through regular routines, such as washing their hands after using the toilet and before meals. Their well-being is effectively promoted because information is requested from parents about their children's health care matters and all the required written parental consents are in place to support this. For example, parents give written consent for the seeking of any emergency medical treatment or advice that may be necessary. Most staff have attended first aid and food hygiene training to ensure they are aware of the correct procedures to follow to maintain children's good health. Accident reports are used to record any accidents and parents countersign acknowledging the entry. Staff are extremely vigilant in ensuring children apply sun cream and wear hats in hot weather, thus reinforcing children's understanding of sun safety.

Children's dietary needs are well met through the provision of a range of healthy and nourishing snacks and meals. For example, Tuna wraps, cheese, soup, chicken noodles, wholemeal bread and yoghurts. Fresh fruit and vegetables are offered daily. Children have free access to drinks to ensure they are not thirsty. Food provided by parents during the holiday scheme is stored appropriately until required.

Children are encouraged to take part in an admirable range of physical play activities which contribute to a healthy lifestyle. For example, they enjoy playing parachute games, rounders and football on the school field, swimming in the pool and using the climbing apparatus. Opportunities are taken to enjoy leisurely walks to areas of interest close by, such as the farm and the local RSPCA centre.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in an extremely safe environment where staff are vigilant in monitoring access to the provision. Children are only released to adults nominated by parents. A questionnaire is sent to parents yearly requesting updating of any changes to emergency contacts and persons able to collect children. Children are collected by staff from the schools they attend, the child's form teacher signs to say that children have been collected by the after school club staff.

Children have access to a good range of quality toys and equipment which meet safety standards. Staff carry out thorough visual safety checks before children arrive and ensure children understand appropriate safety rules. Emergency evacuation procedures are displayed and carried out by the club. This ensures that staff and children are aware of what to do in an emergency.

The club have an appropriate child protection policy which is shared with parents. Staff have attended child protection training and have sound knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. They are aware of the correct procedures to follow to protect children,

however, there is no procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation of abuse against a member of staff or volunteer.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and confident in the familiar environment. They make positive relationships with each other and spend their time playing purposefully together in pairs or small groups, chatting about things that interest them. For example, explaining about the accelerator button on the Playstation game being the same as the pedal in a car, making it go faster. Children enjoy sharing ideas and interacting together, for example, while playing card games and sitting having tea. Children have good opportunities to develop their confidence and self-esteem, whilst being supported by staff's excellent strategies to promote everyone's enjoyment and participation. For example, when playing rounders and card games with staff.

Children are motivated and interested by the stimulating range of activities and play experiences planned by staff using their sound knowledge of child development. Children enjoy a range of interesting activities such as making sun glasses, cooking, planting sunflowers and herbs and making models from clay. Topics based around the children's own interests, such as the seaside and pirates, provide children with a range of craft activities to promote their involvement. Staff engage children in making wall displays using their own creativity, for example, a seaside theme decorated with cross channel ferries and lighthouses. Staff join in with children's play and encourage them to explore their own ideas while offering advice and guidance, for example, when making sun glasses and playing card games. Staff rotate the toys and resources on a daily basis and children are confident to ask for activities they particularly enjoy.

Staff plan an excellent range of activities for the school holidays, such as visiting the ski slope at nearby Nacton, crabbing at Bawdsley and visiting Playworld at Stowmarket.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to participate fully within the club, they are all valued and included and have access to toys and equipment which meet their individual needs. They make positive choices and decisions about how they wish to spend their time and develop a sense of belonging because staff value their contributions. For example, children's work is displayed throughout the setting. Children become aware of the wider world through celebrating festivals such as Diwali, or learning about other countries through cookery activities. Children behave well, and staff, along with consultation with the children, set clear and consistent boundaries of expected behaviour.

The relationships with parents are friendly, staff greet them warmly on arrival. Parents receive comprehensive information on the out of school clubs through brochures, the notice board and newsletters. Written parental consents are in place to ensure children are looked after according to their parents' wishes. There is a system in place for recording complaints received,

which is available to parents. When parents collect their children they are given feedback from staff on their children's time at the club.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff work well together as a team and good adult to child ratios positively support children's care, learning and play. Robust recruitment and induction procedures are in place to ensure children are cared for by staff with a secure knowledge and understanding of child development and the operation of the setting. All staff have undergone relevant checks ensuring children are cared for by suitable persons.

The required documentation and parental consents are maintained to promote children's well-being. The daily register shows accurate times of arrival and departure for children and staff. The registration certificate is displayed in the entrance lobby and operational policies and procedures are in place to support the successful running of the club and to fully promote children's welfare. Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable, this is the first inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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):

- further develop the child protection statement to include a procedure to be followed for allegations made against staff.

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