



Penketh High School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY300320
Inspection date	30 September 2005
Inspector	Wendy Brooks
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Registered person	Linda Ann Kelsey
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Fun Link club runs from Penketh High School each day after school. The provision uses two rooms as play areas, a kitchen and has access to a large outdoor area. Children have access to toilets on the school premises.

Children are collected from local primary schools by staff and walk to the Fun Link Club. A holiday club also runs from the provision during school holidays.

All High School facilities are available.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a range of physical activities that contribute to their good health. Daily activities include opportunities for children to be outdoors where they can take part in life size games of chess and snakes and ladders. Children's physical skills are developed when using the wooden climbing equipment and running games on the playing field. Children are able to rest and be active according to their individual needs.

The effective use of a sick children policy, accident and medication procedures enable the children's health needs to be well met. Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines, through the good examples set by the staff and by the gentle reminders offered to them.

Children benefit from a healthy diet and drinks are freely available to them. Varied and nutritious snacks are provided to the children after school and their individual dietary needs are catered for to ensure children remain healthy.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a setting where most risks are identified and minimised. This means they are able to move around freely and independently. However, some safety procedures have been overlooked, which may put children at risk of accidental injury.

All the required documentation, policies and records are in place to ensure the children's welfare is safeguarded. Staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities with regards to child protection.

Children are provided with a range of quality equipment, which is suitable for their developmental needs. Once the playroom is set up by staff the children can access the resources easily. This enables children to make choices and develop independence.

Children are beginning to understand how to keep themselves safe on the premises, for example, they are reminded not to run in the corridor or stand on chairs. Fire drills are practised with the children so that they know what to do in an emergency, although children would benefit from more frequent practises.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with a suitable range of developmentally appropriate indoor

and outdoor activities. Creative and imaginative play is developed through role play areas, for example, children enjoy dressing up and acting out everyday experiences in the pretend shop. However, there are occasions when children become restless due a lack of pre-planned, organised activities.

Children are comfortable and relaxed, initiating conversations with others and asking questions about what they are doing. Positive relationships are established between children and staff as they sit together for snack time and enjoy the social occasion.

Children are encouraged to help prepare for snack and set up resources in the play room which develops their confidence and independence.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to share resources and play harmoniously alongside each other. They show a good understanding of the expected behaviour and the setting's code of fun is shared with parents and children. This ensures that children's welfare and development needs are met.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. They are aware of their own needs and the needs of other children in the setting. Staff discuss children's individual needs with parents in detail and ensure that all children are able to participate in activities.

Children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of others is developed through a meaningful range of resources to promote a positive view of the wider world. Children learn about their local community through visits and activities. They visit the library on routine visits, where children provide art work for public display.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are happy and enjoy attending, which means they are confident to initiate their own play and learning.

Children's needs are met through generally effective organisation. Adult-child ratios are maintained and resources in the play room are arranged to allow children sufficient space to move around freely and play comfortably.

Acceptable policies and procedures are in place to ensure children are protected from harm and that their well-being and development are supported. However, records of attendance for children, staff and visitors are not maintained accurately.

Parents are kept informed of their children's progress and of details about the provision. This contributes to continuity in the children's care.

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

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 satisfactory. 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):

- ensure all electric sockets are covered in order to keep children safe
- record actual times of children's arrival and departure in the attendance register, and maintain a registration system for staff
- ensure a record of visitors to the setting is maintained.

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