



Pinfold Primary

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY283196
Inspection date	07 December 2006
Inspector	Chris Scully
Setting Address	Pinfold Lane, Scarisbrick, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L40 8HR
Telephone number	01704 840338
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Registered person	Pinfold Primary School
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?

Pinfold Primary registered in 2003. It is owned and managed by a committee. It operates from the school hall and a classroom within Pinfold Primary School in Lancashire. It serves the children of the school and two other schools in the area. A maximum of 16 children between the ages of four and eight years may attend at any one time. The group opens after school, during term-times, from 15.25 to 18.00. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor area.

There are currently 19 children on roll, of which eight are aged under eight years. The setting is able to provide support for children who have a learning difficulty or disability, or for whom English is an additional language.

Two staff, who hold appropriate child care qualifications, are employed to work with the children. The setting receives support from Lancashire Sure Start.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean and hygienic environment. Children understand the need for good hygiene practices as they wash their hands before snack. All children are confident to see to their own personal needs as they independently go to the bathroom. Staff effectively minimise the risk of cross infection as all tables are cleaned before the children sit down to eat. Snacks are hygienically served as food is handed to the children by a member of staff wearing disposable gloves. Children are encouraged to serve themselves accompaniments, such as baguettes and fruit. This successfully fosters their independence and social skills.

All staff are trained in first aid, which means children's accidents and incidents are handled well and children receive the care that they need at this time. A comprehensive sick children policy is in place, which is understood and is effectively implemented by the staff. This means children who become unwell at the setting receive good care. Children have regular opportunities to play outdoors and are confident to use a range of larger resources, such as the parachute. Staff talk to children about being fit and healthy on a regular basis, for example, one child had lost a tooth the previous night. A conversation took place regarding the tooth fairy and the need for the children to clean their teeth every day. Children are encouraged to take part in healthy eating activities and sports based events, such as 'High Five'.

Children enjoy a wide range of healthy and nutritious snacks. These include soup and baguettes, beans on toast, fruit, sandwiches and vegetable stir fries. The recently revised menu is in the process of being piloted by the setting. Staff are successfully consulting with the children and parents to ensure all of the children's needs are met. Staff state the children have been very vocal about what they like and do not like, for example, some children have said the stir fries are 'disgusting' whilst others have enjoyed them. Staff actively encourage the children to try new tastes in order to promote a healthier lifestyle and are fully supported by the parents in their endeavours. One parent has stated that their child will now try new foods, something they would not have done previously. All children have access to fresh drinking water and cordials in order to keep themselves refreshed.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, welcoming environment. The room is well organised and enables children to move freely and to choose where to play. Areas used by the children are clean and well maintained. There are many examples around the room of children's art work, which fosters the children's sense of belonging. Children have access to a range of resources, which provide sufficient challenge, interest and stimulate a fun learning environment. All children are engaged in fun learning experiences with their peers and staff. Toys, books and resources are safe, suitable and are effectively maintained.

Risk have been identified and minimised. This is supported by the recently adopted risk assessments and the vigilance of the staff. Systems are in place for collecting children from

other schools by car. However, the setting does not have consent to transport children in a vehicle and the records relating to the vehicle or the driver are not held on site. Effective systems are in place to protect children from unwanted visitors. All visitors and work persons to the setting are required to sign in and are supervised by staff at all times. Clear collection procedures ensure children are collected by named adults. Children learn to keep themselves safe through discussions with the staff about car safety and other topic work.

Staff demonstrate a sound understanding of child protection issues, such as the potential signs of abuse and neglect. This is supported by the child protection policy and information regarding the action to take should they have a concern about a child's welfare. However, the information regarding the referral system for allegations against staff is incorrect and may hinder the staff's ability to contact the appropriate agencies in an emergency. The setting has sought support from Sure Start in order to further enhance the child protection processes and the staff's understanding of child protection issues. This means staff are able to protect children from harm.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very happy and settled at the setting. They relate well to one another and enjoy socialising with their friends. Children are keen to tell visitors that they enjoy their time at the setting and playing with their friends. This is effectively supported by the warm, caring relationships the staff build with the children. Staff have stated that a number of children have asked their parents to attend extra sessions as they are having so much fun.

Children are engaged in a range of activities, which engaged their interest. They are keen to involve the staff in their activities, such as playing board games and painting activities. Children enjoy a range of free art activities. They are enthusiastic about their 'magic paintings' and chat excitedly to each other as their masterpiece is revealed. Children confidently talk to visitors about what they like to do best at the setting and their forthcoming school production of 'Oliver'. Some children confidently and spontaneously burst into singing, 'Food glorious food'. This is generally well received by other children and staff.

Children receive high levels of positive interaction from the staff who are keen to discuss the days events with them and engage them in conversations. Staff listen well to the children, which enables them to feel valued. Plans are in place and encompass a wide range of interesting activities, such as baking. The staff value the children's input and regularly consult with them on the activities provided to ensure all their needs and interests are met. This significantly enhances the children's sense of belonging and enables them to feel secure in the staff's care.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are welcomed on their arrival by the staff and children. The staff are knowledgeable about the children in their care. The children's individual needs and circumstances are known and are effectively catered for by the staff. The children's input and ideas are highly valued by

the staff who consult them on various aspects of the setting, such as the menu and activities. This successfully fosters the children's self-esteem and sense of belonging. Children learn about their local community and the wider world through various events throughout the school calendar. These include celebrating various festivals and looking at individual countries, such as India and France. This means children are developing a positive attitude to others.

Children are well behaved. They have a secure understanding of the setting's rules, which enables them to behave appropriately and to keep themselves safe. Staff are positive role models to the children as they talk calmly and provide clear explanations for the children. Children are polite to one another and use manners appropriately. Staff provide plenty of praise and encouragement to the children for their efforts and achievements. This effectively promotes the children's self-esteem and confidence. Children with additional needs are not currently being cared for. However, appropriate systems are in place to support children.

Parents are warmly welcomed into the setting. They are greeted in a friendly manner and staff provide verbal feedback regarding their children. Parents are provided with well written information about the setting and are effectively consulted on any changes to the organisation. This means parents are well informed about the care the children receive. This is supported by the parents who state they are happy with the care their children receive.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by qualified and experienced staff who are effectively vetted. The children are appropriately supervised at all times. Rooms are organised well to enable children to move freely and to choose where to play. Children are happy and settled and have a good relationship with all of the staff. Clear induction systems means staff are fully informed of their individual roles and responsibilities. For example, one member of staff takes responsibility for the children's dietary needs, another for the activities provided. All staff have opportunities to attend additional training in order to further enhance their skills and knowledge base.

All policies, which contribute to the children's health, safety and well-being are in place. However, there are omissions within the child protection policy regarding allegations against staff. Most consents are in place, which means children are cared for in line with their parents' wishes. Although, this is not in place for transporting children in a vehicle.

Overall, 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 quality of care was judged as inadequate. Following the inspection six actions were raised in order to improve the quality of care. These have been successfully met. Clear vetting procedures are now in place and all staff are employed by the school. Activities are effectively planned in order to meet the interests of the children attending. Activities are organised well in order for children to have as much choice as possible and to use their imagination. This is further supported by a suitable range of resources, which meets the developmental needs of the children and some resources which reflect diversity. Children's

health is promoted by the introduction of healthy snacks and by staff ensuring children are suitably dressed for outdoor play. All records are now available for inspection. Policy and procedures have been revised in order to reflect current practice. In addressing these issues the setting has improved upon the children's health, safety and well-being.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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 complaint 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 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 consent is obtained to transport children in a vehicle and all records relating to the named drivers and vehicles are in place
- revise the child protection policy to include information on the procedures to take should an allegation be made against staff.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk